Country star Garth Brooks to come out of retirement **Page 10**

Is it time for Texas WR Jordan Shipley to get some Heisman hype? **Back page**

STARS AND STRIPES®

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'THE ENEMY HAS STARTED A GUERRILLA WAR'

Coordinated attacks kill 39 in Pakistan

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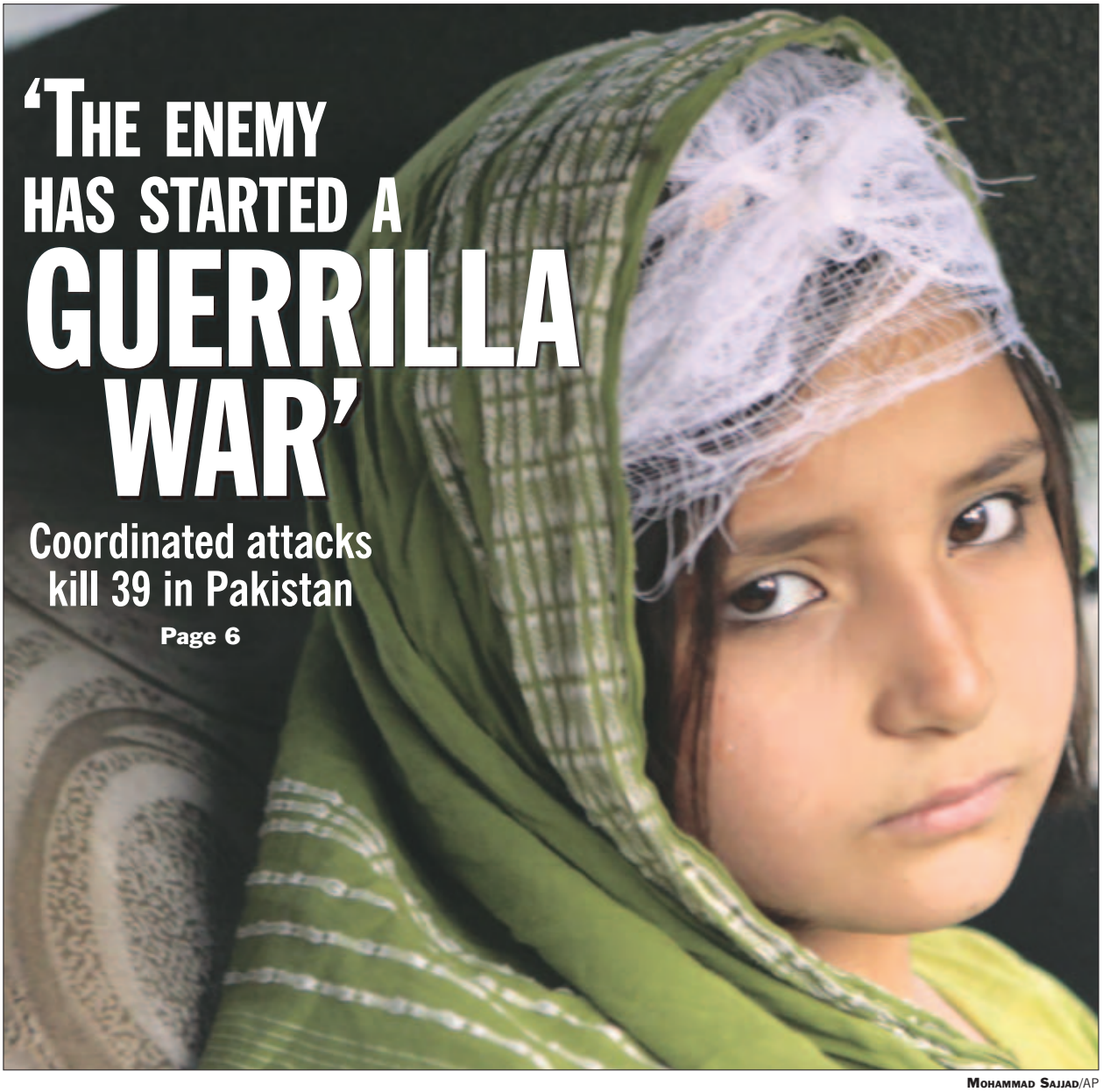

MOHAMMAD SAJJAD/AP

A girl is bandaged after being injured in a bomb blast Thursday in Peshawar, Pakistan. Gunmen attacked law enforcement facilities in the eastern city of Lahore and car bombs hit government buildings near the Afghan border in an escalating wave of anti-government violence.

Working on 'middle path' strategy for Afghanistan

BY JULIAN E. BARNES AND CHRISTI PARSONS
McClatchy Tribune

WASHINGTON — As the Obama administration debates whether to shift its aims in Afghanistan, officials at the Pentagon and the White House National Security Council have begun developing "middle path" strategies for the U.S. mission in Afghanistan, according to current and former officials.

Some measures under consideration include closer cooperation with local tribal chiefs and regional warlords, using CIA agents as intermediaries and cash payments as incentives, said the current and former officials, describing the potentially controversial strategies on condition of anonymity.

Other steps would concentrate U.S. and allied troops in cities, pulling out of Afghan's widely dispersed rural areas. However, the allied forces would push ahead with plans to intensify training of Afghan troops, officials said.

None of the strategies envision troop reductions, but officials said they do not require the 40,000-troop increase preferred by Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, the U.S. and allied commander. A number of White House officials favor sending fewer than 20,000 additional troops. President Barak Obama approved 21,000 additional U.S. troops this year, bringing the U.S. force to 68,000.

Obama's national security team met a fifth time on Wednesday to discuss options for Afghanistan.

SEE MIDDLE ON PAGE 3

Missile wing commander at N.D. base relieved of duty

BY JAMES MACPHERSON
The Associated Press

BISMARCK, N.D. — The missile wing commander at North Dakota's Minot Air Force Base was relieved of his command Wednesday after a series of missteps at the unit, including two crashes of vehicles carrying missile parts in just more than a year.

Col. Christopher Ayres was not ousted for any misconduct or wrongdoing, but the Air Force said it had lost confidence in his ability to command the base's 91st Missile Wing given recent incidents, which also included three ballistic missile crewmembers falling asleep while holding classified launch code devices.

The 91st Missile Wing oversees 150 Minuteman III missiles, sin underground silos, in central and western North Dakota.

"It comes down to performance and accountability," said Air Force spokeswoman Laurie A. Arellano. "With nuclear weapons, our nation expects no less than perfection."

A Wednesday call to the base to reach Ayres was not returned.

SEE RELIEVED ON PAGE 2

Recent incidents

July 12, 2008: Airmen fell asleep watching nuclear launch code components.

July 30, 2008: Truck carrying a Minuteman III rocket booster overturned.

Aug. 31: Truck carrying rocket engine parts overturned.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"We've been at war eight years, and we realize now we're starting from scratch because very little work has been done building a credible Afghan partner."

—An Obama administration official on the challenges facing the U.S. in Afghanistan

See story on Page 3

TOP CLICKS ON STRIPES.COM

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3. Navy officer's mistress questioned in Philippines murder case
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COMING TOMORROW

Perspectives

Firsthand impressions of trouble in Afghanistan

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'Balloon boy' found safe at home

The Associated Press

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — A 6-year-old Colorado boy feared to have floated off in a helium balloon was found safe at his home Thursday, hiding in a cardboard box in the garage attic.

Sheriff Jim Alderman turned to reporters during a news conference and gave a thumbs-up and said, "He's at the house." Alderden said an investigator on the scene saw the boy and he was fine, and had apparently been in the attic the whole time.

The giant silvery helium balloon floated away from the family's yard late Thursday morning, sparking a frantic rescue operation after the boy's brother said he saw 6-year-old Falcon Heene get into the balloon.

The flying saucer-like craft, shown live on television nationwide, tipped precariously at times before gliding to the ground in a field, the culmination of a two-hour, 50-mile journey through two counties.

With the child nowhere in sight, investigators searched the balloon's path. Several people reported seeing something fall from the craft while it was in the air, and yellow crime-scene tape was placed around the home.

It was not clear why the boy's brother reported seeing Falcon getting into the balloon.

Kevin Kuretich of the Colorado Division of Emergency Management said the craft had some kind of electric power unit which was run by double-C batteries.

KMGH-TV/AP

A 6-year-old boy was reported to have climbed into a helium balloon and floated away Thursday. The boy turned up later, reportedly hiding in the attic of his family's home.

Relieved: Air Force lost confidence after series of incidents

RELIEVED, FROM PAGE 1

Maj. Gen. Roger Burg, commander of the 20th Air Force in Air Force Space Command, made the decision to oust Ayres, according to the military.

Ayres

The 20th Air Force maintains and operates land-based intercontinental ballistic missiles based in Wyoming, Montana and North Dakota.

Ayres "will be moved to another position within the Air Force," Arellano said. She did not elaborate. Col. Ferdinand Stoss, former vice commander of the 90th Missile Wing at Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyo., will take over as commander of the 91st Missile Wing.

Ayres has been in the Air Force since 1985, and had been the base missile wing commander since May 2008.

During his tenure, three ballistic missile crewmembers fell asleep holding launch codes in July 2008 and were discharged a year later.

Also in July 2008, a vehicle carrying a rocket booster for an unarmed Minuteman III ballistic missile overturned while being transported from the base to a launch facility in northwestern North Dakota. The military estimated it spent about $5.6 million to recover the rocket from a ditch. And this August, a semitrailer carrying rocket engine parts from the base overturned when the driver became distracted by an insect that flew in a window and landed on the driver's back, the military said.

A court-martial also is pending for a Minot officer accused of stealing a missile launch control device, allegedly because he wanted a souvenir.

Minot Air Force Base's 5th Bomb Wing was recertified in the handling of nuclear weapons last year after months of retraining in the wake of a 2007 mix-up in which a bomber mistakenly flew to Louisiana armed with nuclear missiles.

Base commander Col. Bruce Emig was ousted following the B-52's flight to Barksdale Air Force Base and replaced by Col. Joel Westa.

The Air Force in August created a new Global Strike Command at Barksdale to better manage the nation's nuclear arsenal.

The new command will consolidate control of long-range ballistic missiles and bomb wings that carry nuclear weapons.

U.S. AIR FORCE/AP

A truck carrying a rocket booster for an unarmed Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile overturned near Makoti, N.D., in July 2008.

Correction

An Oct. 15 story about the 16th Sustainment Brigade soldiers returning to Bamberg, Germany, incorrectly stated the unit was the last in the Army to serve a 15-month tour in Iraq.

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Italy: Taliban not paid for peace in Afghanistan

NATO also denies report insurgents were given bribes

BY ALESSANDRA RIZZO
The Associated Press

ROME — Italy and NATO on Thursday denied a newspaper report that Italian intelligence secretly paid the Taliban thousands of dollars to keep the peace in an Afghan area under Italian control.

Premier Silvio Berlusconi's office called the report in the Times of London "completely groundless." The Italian defense minister denounced it as "rubbish" and said he wanted to sue the newspaper.

In Kabul, a U.S. spokesman for NATO forces in Afghanistan denied the allegations. "We don't do bribes," Col. Wayne Shanks said. "We don't pay the insurgents."

"The article has unnamed sources, innuendo and hyperbole," Shanks said. "We see no evidence of any of the accusations."

The Times reported that Italy had paid "tens of thousands of dollars" to Taliban commanders and warlords in the Surobi district, east of the capital, Kabul. The newspaper cited Western military officials, including high-ranking officers at NATO, speaking on condition of anonymity.

It accused Rome of failing to inform its allies about the payments and of misleading the French, who took over the Surobi district in mid-2008, thinking the area was quiet and safe. Shortly afterward, French troops were hit with an ambush that killed 10 soldiers and had significant political repercussions back in Paris.

French Defense Ministry spokesman Christophe Prazuck said he had "no information to confirm what has been written in the Times" and stressed that allied troops in Afghanistan share information and enjoy mutual trust.

A statement by Berlusconi's office strongly refuted the report.

It quoted the former U.S. commander in Afghanistan, Gen. David McKiernan, as saying the Italians had achieved results in the area.

The statement also denied that the U.S. ambassador to Italy had made a formal complaint in June 2008 over the alleged payments, as the Times reported.

The U.S. Embassy in Rome declined to comment on the report.

Iraq's PM calls on Turkey to stop cross-border raids

BY QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq asked Turkey on Thursday to respect its sovereignty and stop cross-border military operations against Kurdish rebels, a government spokesman said.

The raids have been a sore spot in Turkish-Iraqi relations, which have been warming since the 2003 U.S.-led invasion toppled dictator Saddam Hussein.

Nouri al-Maliki delivered the message to Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan during a meeting in Baghdad, where the two were also to sign agreements boosting economic ties, spokesman Ali al-Dabbagh said.

"Iraq's prime minister reiterated that the government will not allow any forces to cross Iraqi borders," al-Dabbagh said.

The Kurdish rebel group known as PKK has been fighting for autonomy from Turkey since 1984 in the southeast region along the border with Iraq. The group uses strongholds in northern Iraq for cross-border raids. The PKK is considered a terrorist organization by the European Union and United States.

IRAQ PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE/AP

Iraq's Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, right, greets his Turkish counterpart, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, at Baghdad International airport during his visit on Thursday.

Turkey recently intensified its offensive against the PKK, while Baghdad has been limited in its ability to act against the rebels and has been preoccupied with fighting violence elsewhere in Iraq. The warning to Turkey comes at a time when Iraq has been attempting to step up protection of its borders.

Middle: War approach would mix strategies

MIDDLE FROM PAGE 1

Senior administration officials said later that no formal alternative to the counterinsurgency campaign outlined by McChrystal has been put on the table. But officials said Obama is considering proposals to amend McChrystal's plans.

A final strategy meeting is planned for next week, and two defense officials said McChrystal may travel to Washington to attend that session in person, rather than by teleconference.

Anticipating a possible shift in administration strategy, Republicans have attacked any option providing fewer than 40,000 troops as risky half-measures. "It's a big gamble," said Sen. Christopher Bond, R-Mo., the ranking Republican on the Senate Intelligence Committee. "Which half of the war do you want to fight?" But advocates of a middle approach question whether Americans will support a long-term effort in Afghanistan.

> Middle path strategies **would not try to prescribe limits on U.S. efforts,** such as by focusing on attacking on al-Qaida

One middle path approach would be to take McChrystal's plan and "pare it down," keeping similar outlines moving troops away from less important objectives, said a former official, who served under both the Bush and Obama administrations.

The middle path strategies would not try to prescribe limits on U.S. efforts, such as by focusing on attacking on al-Qaida, a posture once favored by Vice President Joe Biden.

However, the measures are less ambitious than the in-depth counterinsurgency strategy advocated by McChrystal and other military leaders.

Cooperation with warlords and tribal chiefs could generate considerable controversy as a reflection of limited U.S. options.

During the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan, the Bush administration routinely made deals with tribal leaders and warlords to pacify parts of the country and wrest control from the Taliban.

Over the years, some of those alliances faded, while others were superseded by political deals made by Afghan President Hamid Karzai. But the U.S. has continually worked to make allies of tribal elders and influential regional leaders.

Allied forces also have allowed warlords to continue to exercise a measure of control over their home regions, such as Abdul Rashid Dostum in northern Afghanistan and Ismail Khan in Herat.

"We already have ceded control in parts of the country to warlords," said Thomas X. Hammes, a retired Marine colonel now at the National Defense University. "People say it is a horrible thing to do. Well, we are doing it."

BRENNAN LINSLEY/AP

U.S. Marines wait in line for dinner outside a chow hall at Camp Leatherneck in Helmand province, Afghanistan.

Afghan debate focuses on wide range of complexities

BY ANNE E. KORNBLUT AND SCOTT WILSON
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama, convening his fifth war council meeting in as many weeks, pressed his senior national security advisers Wednesday on the political situation in Afghanistan and the effort to train the country's security forces, officials said.

Allegations of fraud in the Afghan presidential elections over the summer have raised questions about the legitimacy of Hamid Karzai's government, complicating U.S. efforts to partner with him. Meanwhile, the country's security forces are seen as ill-equipped to confront an insurgency that is gaining strength.

Such factors are figuring prominently in the debate over the Obama administration's strategy in Afghanistan, officials say. An administration official said the president was "very focused on the complexity of the situation" Wednesday — looking past the military aspect of the equation and toward the civilian effort.

Another official said the focus on the civilian effort grew out of a sense that the United States needs to better cultivate Afghan leaders and institutions. .

"We've been at war eight years, and we realize now we're starting from scratch because very little work has been done building a credible Afghan partner," said the official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

Obama has said he will make a decision on U.S. troop levels in the coming weeks, and White House officials said that timetable is still in effect, with another war council session scheduled for next week.

But in Britain, Prime Minister Gordon Brown announced Wednesday that he would send an additional 500 troops to Afghanistan — triggering media reports there that U.S. allies had reached a preliminary conclusion about increasing troop levels.

Brown said he would deploy the additional troops only if NATO partners also send extra forces. The British military contingent in Afghanistan would reach 9,500 if the additional troops are deployed.

In remarks before the House of Commons, the British prime minister suggested that his move to send additional combat troops is in line with the consensus emerging from Obama's policy review.

"I believe the decision we are announcing is consistent with what the Americans will decide," said Brown, who met last month with Gen. Stanley McChrystal, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, and Gen. David Petraeus, the overall commander for the region.

White House press secretary Robert Gibbs denied a BBC report that Obama has settled on a "substantial increase" of U.S. forces — up to an additional 45,000 — that could be announced as soon as next week.

Nonetheless, he added that the British troop increase reflected a concerted effort among the administration and its partners.

"Obviously, throughout this process, we have been coordinating our review with our allies," Gibbs said.

Although Obama's top advisers disagree over whether to adopt a counterterrorism strategy or a counterinsurgency approach in Afghanistan, they have generally reached a consensus on other matters, officials said. That consensus emphasizes the importance of training Afghan security and police forces, as well as improving efforts to build effective government institutions.

The administration is also trying to bolster the government in neighboring Pakistan. Obama signed a bill Thursday that provides the country with $7.5 billion over five years.

Vets may get another stimulus check in 2010

An estimated 2 million would be eligible

BY LEO SHANE III
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Millions of veterans could get another $250 stimulus check next year if President Barack Obama can convince lawmakers that the move is needed to help the economy.

The plan would follow the economic recovery checks sent out this spring to senior citizens, disabled workers and some veterans as part of the broader stimulus package.

Veterans and their survivors who are currently receiving disability compensation, dependency and indemnity compensation, or pension payouts would qualify. Any veteran receiving Social Security benefits would also be eligible for the $250 check.

The plan would apply only to citizens living in the United States, Puerto Rico or Guam.

In a statement Wednesday night, Obama said the checks are designed to help "those hardest hit by the recession." An estimated 2 million veterans would be eligible for the payments, not including those among the 49 million Social Security beneficiaries who could receive checks.

Senior administration officials would not commit to when veterans will see the checks, noting that Congress still must draft and adopt legislation to authorize the payments.

But they believe lawmakers will be open to the idea, with one official noting that "the most important thing we can do to strengthen this economy is provide additional relief to those hardest hit."

Both House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said they will work with Obama on the proposal, with Pelosi saying in a statement that "providing another economic recovery payment is the right thing to do."

The announcement came just hours before the Social Security Administration announced it will not have a cost-of-living adjustment for Social Security recipients in 2010, the first time in 35 years without an increase.

White House officials said the drop in inflation rates negated the need for a Social Security COLA increase.

Another round of $250 checks would cost about $13 billion; Obama pledged that the money will not hurt Social Security, but offered no specifics on where the funding would come from.

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AARON BURDEN/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

A member of the Indonesian military directs a U.S. CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter across the runway at Tabing Airfield in Padang, Indonesia, on Tuesday.

Military heading home after relief missions to Indonesia, Philippines

BY ERIK SLAVIN
Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The military is wrapping up its efforts in Indonesia and the Philippines after delivering medical assistance and tons of supplies following the natural disasters that struck the Southeast Asian nations.

Most of the joint force operations in Indonesia received orders to de-escalate their efforts and leave the country Wednesday night, Chief Petty Officer Ty Swartz of Amphibious Force 7th Fleet said from Hong Kong on Thursday.

Hundreds of people died and thousands more were displaced by a Sept. 30 earthquake that ravaged Padang city and its nearby areas.

The joint forces delivered about 200 tons of relief supplies, Swartz said. The Air Force also provided a rapid-response field medical facility. Once the military delivered the entire payload it received from governmental and nonprofit relief agencies, it was time to go home, Swartz said.

"We don't want to be offensive or obtrusive to the Indonesians," Swartz said.

Marine Corps CH-53 heavy lift helicopters were able to bring supplies to remote villages cut off from the initial relief effort, Swartz said.

The Yokosuka-based USS McCampbell left Indonesia on Tuesday night, while the Sasebo-based USS Denver left sometime between Wednesday night and Thursday morning, Swartz said.

In the Philippines, civilians and Philippine military forces have taken over the task of relieving a nation devastated by Tropical Storm Ketsana and Typhoon Parma. Working together with Philippine forces, the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit and other servicemembers delivered nearly 40,000 food packs, 3,000 boxes of clothes and personal care items and 654 cases of water, according Rebecca Thompson, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Embassy in Manila.

Military health care workers saw 9,000 patients, while construction crews cleared about 49,000 cubic feet of debris, Thompson added.

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Airman awarded Combat Action Medal for service in Iraq

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Judging by the number of Air Force Combat Action Medals awarded, there are many airmen with war stories to tell.

Since 2007, when the U.S. Air Force introduced the gold-and-scarlet device for airmen engaged in air or ground fighting in combat zones, the service has presented 4,875 of the combat medals, officials said.

The Air Force has granted the medal to 78 percent of applicants to date, according to Air Force figures.

Tech. Sgt. Robert H. Scheel, a battlefield weather forecaster with the 435th Air Ground Operations Wing at Ramstein, received his award on Wednesday.

The unit's commander, Col. Thomas Gould, pinned the medal on Scheel during a short ceremony at Ramstein.

Though it had been six years since Scheel and fellow airman Tech. Sgt. Mark Sterling were part of an Army convoy ambushed in Babil province, Iraq, the medal hadn't lost its luster, Scheel said.

"Before, we really didn't get recognized for the things that we did," Scheel, 34, said of airmen in nontraditional combat roles. "I'm honored, definitely."

Both Sterling and Scheel at the time of the incident were staff sergeants with the 18th Weather Squadron at Fort Bragg, N.C., and deployed with the Army's 82nd Airborne Division. Sterling also received the Air Force Combat Action Medal, Scheel said.

The Sept. 18, 2003, ambush was quick — no more than 45 seconds to a minute, Scheel estimates — and close. Scheel saw muzzle flashes and individuals firing from an overpass he and Sterling had to drive under. A rocket-propelled grenade that turned out to be a dud landed about 20 yards from them. No one in the convoy was injured.

E-mail Jennifer H. Svan at:
svanj@estripes.osd.mil

Tech. Sgt. Robert H. Scheel wears the Air Force Combat Action Medal. Scheel is one of nearly 5,000 airmen to get the medal since the Air Force began awarding it in 2007.

JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

Armed vet arrested outside VA hospital

By Jim Suhr
The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — An Army veteran remained jailed Wednesday after he was arrested with a loaded handgun outside an Illinois Veterans Affairs hospital where he warned a nurse he was armed and was "going to fill that place with lead," court documents show.

Mark Harmon, 29, of Shawneetown, Ill., told a nurse by telephone Oct. 8 that he was headed to her workplace at the VA hospital in the southern Illinois town of Marion, according to an affidavit filed in court by Roy Thompson, acting chief of the site's police force.

"I have a glock, and I'm going to fill that place with lead," he told the nurse, according to the affidavit.

Within hours, Harmon was arrested after he went to the VA property and tried to bypass awaiting police with his pickup truck, in which authorities found a loaded Glock 23 semiautomatic handgun, a magazine filled with 13 bullets and 13 loose rounds of ammunition, Thompson wrote.

Court papers do not detail what grievance Harmon may have had with the VA hospital.

Messages left Wednesday with Thompson, the VA hospital's spokeswoman, Harmon's court-appointed public defender and his father were not immediately returned.

Federal prosecutors have charged Harmon with one count of possessing a firearm on federal property with the intent to commit a crime. A hearing that could decide whether he'll be eligible for bond was scheduled for Friday.

During a brief court appearance Tuesday in Benton, Ill., Harmon was granted a public defender and waived his preliminary hearing. In a financial affidavit, Harmon lists himself as a full-time student and divorced father of two who during the past year has drawn $2,700 in financial aid.

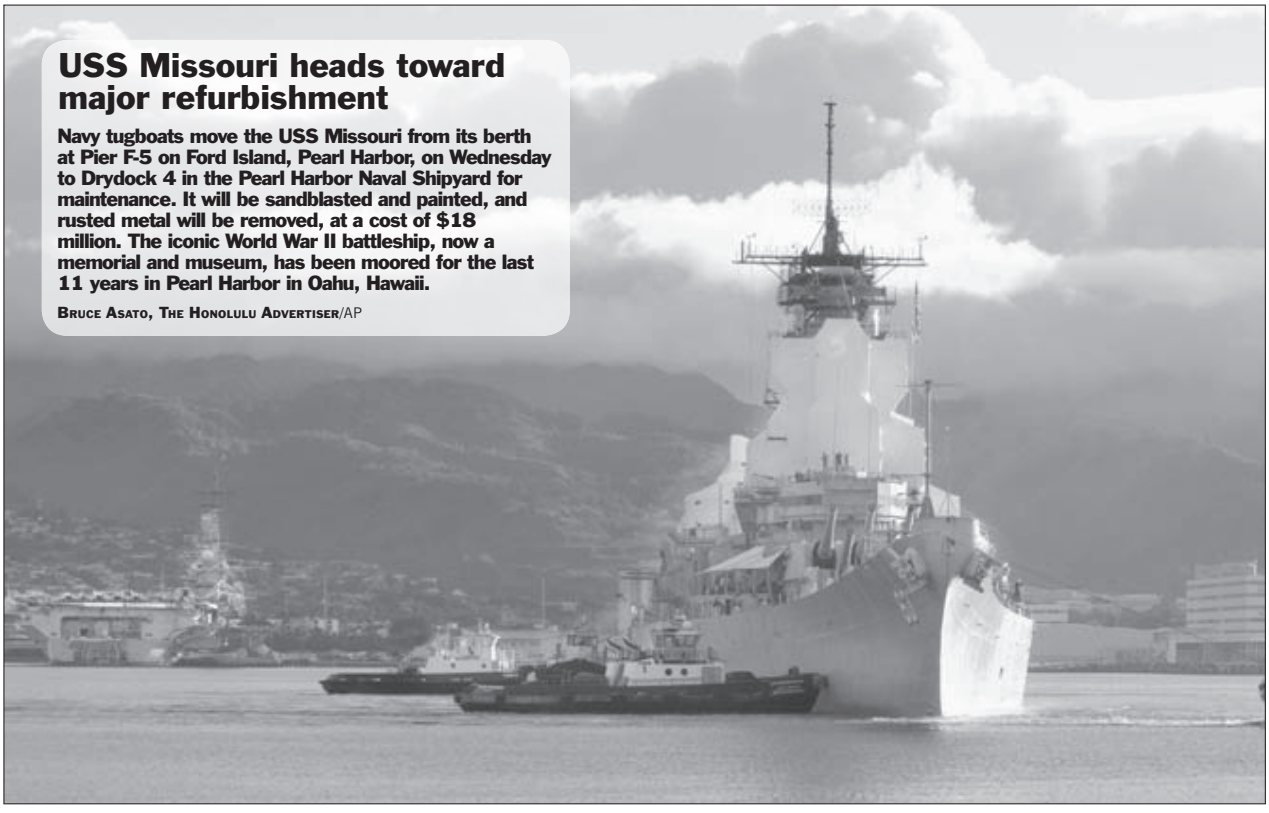
Harmon, an army specialist, was released from active duty in May 2007 and had been stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky., army records show. It was not immediately known if he had served in Iraq or elsewhere overseas.

His threats have gotten him in trouble before. In June 2007 in Shawneetown, Harmon went to his father's home armed with an assault rifle and handgun, then threatened his parents and any police who tried to intervene, the town's Police Chief Robert Patton said Wednesday.

Prescribed medication Harmon had taken caused him to nod off, enabling his parents to sneak out to safety, Patton said. With the house surrounded by heavily armed police, Harmon was awakened when the telephone rang, noticed he was alone and bolted from the house before being quickly arrested outside, Patton said.

"This was all a big misunderstanding," Harmon's ex-wife, Ashley Price, told television station WSIL of Carterville at the time.

The Gallatin County state's attorney did not return calls seeking comment, and it wasn't immediately clear if Harmon was charged in that case.



USS Missouri heads toward major refurbishment

Navy tugboats move the USS Missouri from its berth at Pier F-5 on Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, on Wednesday to Drydock 4 in the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard for maintenance. It will be sandblasted and painted, and rusted metal will be removed, at a cost of $18 million. The iconic World War II battleship, now a memorial and museum, has been moored for the last 11 years in Pearl Harbor in Oahu, Hawaii.

Bruce Asato, The Honolulu Advertiser/AP

Ross Perot to get West Point award

The Associated Press

WEST POINT, N.Y. — Former independent presidential candidate H. Ross Perot is receiving the Thayer Award at West Point.

The Texas billionaire was to receive the award for service to his country at a ceremony Thursday evening hosted by the U.S. Military Academy's Association of Graduates. West Point notes Perot's commitment to helping servicemembersandtheir families.

Perot

The 79-year-old Perot ran as an independent presidential candidate in 1992 and 1996.

Perot is a 1953 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy.

Past Thayer Award recipients include President Dwight Eisenhower, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, Bob Hope and Walter Cronkite.

Ind. soldier home from war kills self in theater

The Associated Press

MUNCIE, Ind. — The father of an Indiana National Guardsman who fatally shot himself inside a movie theater said Tuesday that the families of servicemembers returning home from war need to closely watch them for signs of stress.

Spc. Jacob Sexton, 21, showed no signs of being suicidal before shooting himself in the head, the guardsman's father, Jeffrey Sexton of Farmland, said.

"We just need to watch these boys and the girls coming back home. Something's just not right. Too much is happening," Jeffrey Sexton said.

Muncie police said Jacob Sexton had argued with theater employees on Monday night over having to show identification to see the R-rated horror comedy "Zombieland."

Twenty minutes into the film, a friend handed Sexton a 9mm handgun, at the guardsman's request, and he then shot himself in the head, police said.

Sgt. Mike Engle told The (Muncie, Ind.) Star Press that witnesses told officers that an employee at the Muncie theater asked Sexton for ID and that he replied that he had killed 18 people while in the military.

Engle said it appeared Sexton and some of his companions had been drinking.

About eight other people were in the theater at the time of the shooting.

No one else was hurt, police said.

"We just need to watch these boys and the girls coming back home. Something's just not right. Too much is happening."

Jeffrey Sexton
father of Spc. Jacob Sexton, who committed suicide in a theater

The guardsman's father said the shooting wasn't an accident. He said Sexton's younger brothers, also at the theater, said the guardsman told a friend to duck, and when the friend hesitated, Sexton pushed the friend's head down before the shooting.

Jeffrey Sexton said he and his wife, Barbara, had not noticed any signs of stress.

"This all came as a complete surprise to us. He'd been happy since the day he joined. He was planning on re-enlisting," Jeffrey Sexton said.

Indiana National Guard officials said Jacob Sexton was home on a 15-day leave and was scheduled to return to Afghanistan at the beginning of next week.

He was serving with the Indiana National Guard's Company A, 2nd Battalion, 151st Infantry Regiment.

The unit responds to attacks on military installations or convoys near the Kabul area, said Lt. Col. Deedra Thombleson, a guard spokeswoman.

Sexton had spent three months in Iraq in 2006-07, she said.

First Sgt. Steven Bishop said Sexton was a "great kid" who volunteered to go to Afghanistan. He let other guard members in the unit select their leave dates before choosing his so that everyone else could get their first pick, Bishop said.

"He was always smiling _ always joking," Bishop said.

"He was always making the best out of any situation and never complained. It's really a shock for all of us. This would have been the last thing in the world we would have expected from him."

IN THE WORLD

MOHAMMAD SAJJAD/AP

Police officers examine the wreckage of a car used Thursday in a bombing in Peshawar, Pakistan. Teams of gunmen attacked law enforcement facilities in the eastern city of Lahore and car bombs hit government buildings in the northwest, in an escalating wave of anti-government violence.

Pakistani cities rocked by series of militant strikes

BY BABAR DOGAR AND MUNIR AHMAD
The Associated Press

LAHORE, Pakistan — Teams of gunmen launched coordinated attacks on three law enforcement facilities in Pakistan's second-largest city of Lahore, and car bombs exploded in two cities near the Afghan border Thursday, killing 39 people in an escalating wave of anti-government violence.

The assaults, aimed at scuttling a planned offensive into the Taliban heartland near Afghanistan, highlight Islamist militants' ability to carry out sophisticated strikes on heavily fortified facilities and exposes the failure of the intelligence agencies to adequately infiltrate the extremist cells.

No group immediately claimed responsibility, though suspicion fell on the Pakistani Taliban who have claimed other recent strikes. The attacks Thursday also were the latest to underscore the growing threat to Punjab, of which Lahore is the capital. The province is next to India, where the Taliban are believed to have made inroads and linked up with local insurgent outfits.

President Asif Ali Zardari said the bloodshed that has engulfed the nation over the past two weeks would not deter the government from its mission to eliminate the violent extremists.

"The enemy has started a guerrilla war," Interior Minister Rehman Malik said. "The whole nation should be united against these handful of terrorists, and God willing we will defeat them."

The wave of violence practically shut down daily life in Lahore. All government offices were ordered closed, the roads were nearly empty, and major markets were closed.

Security officials said many of the gunmen were wearing suicide vests and blew themselves up when cornered. Sajjad Bhutta, a senior government official, said the attackers appeared to be both from the lawless tribal regions along the Afghan border and from Punjab.

"They were not here to live. They were here to die. Each time they were injured, they blew themselves up," he said. "They were well trained to the extent they could jump over the walls and shoot well."

TV footage showed helicopters in the air over one of the police facilities and paramilitary forces with rifles and bulletproof vests taking cover behind trees outside the compound's wall.

Officials have warned that Taliban fighters close to the border were increasingly joining forces with Punjabi militants spread out across the country and foreign al-Qaida operatives, dramatically increasing the dangers to Pakistan. Punjab is Pakistan's most populous and powerful province, and the Taliban claimed recently that they were activating cells there and elsewhere in the country for assaults.

The U.S. has encouraged Pakistan to take strong action against insurgents who are using its soil as a base for attacks in Afghanistan, where U.S. troops are bogged down in an increasingly difficult war. It has carried out a slew of its own missile strikes in Pakistan's lawless tribal belt over the past year, killing several top militants.

One suspected U.S. missile strike killed four people overnight Thursday when it hit a compound in an area in North Waziristan tribal region where members of the militant network led by Jalaluddin Haqqani are believed to operate, two officials said.

Tracking a period of violence

Pakistan reports six other terrorist attacks within 11 days.

1. **Oct. 15** Gunmen attack law enforcement buildings
2. **Oct. 15** Suicide car bomber hits police station
3. **Oct. 12** Car bomb kills 41 in Alpuri, Shangla district
4. **Oct. 10-11** Raid on Pakistani army headquarters leaves at least 19 dead
5. **Oct. 9** Bombing in Peshawar kills 49
6. **Oct. 5** Suicide bomber kills five at U.N. food office in Islamabad

Obama signs $7B aid bill for Pakistan Page 8

Man accused of snatching his kids in Japan is freed

The Associated Press

TOKYO — Japanese police released an American man held for 18 days on Thursday, pending an investigation into accusations he snatched his children from his ex-wife.

The case is among a growing number of custody disputes in Japan that involve one foreign parent. Japanese law allows only one parent to be a custodian — almost always the mother — leaving many divorced fathers without access to their children until they are grown.

While prosecutors have not pressed charges against Christopher Savoie, they haven't yet dropped the case either, and an investigation is continuing, said police official Kiyonori Tanaka in the southern Japanese city of Yanagawa. They decided to release him on grounds that he was not a flight risk, he said.

Savoie, 38, of Franklin, Tenn., was arrested Sept. 28 after his Japanese ex-wife, Noriko, called police to say he grabbed their two children, ages 8 and 6, as she was walking them to school, forced them into a car and drove off.

Savoie's current wife, Amy, was awakened by a telephone call at her home in Franklin early Thursday and answered to hear her husband's voice.

"'Hello, my love, I'm out,'" were his first words, Amy Savoie said.

She said the couple had only a few minutes to talk, and it isn't yet clear when her husband would be coming home.

"We've been able to speak, but there's so much to talk about," she said. "This is all about him coming home."

The Fukuoka District Prosecutors Office refused to comment on the Savoie case. But a suspect with a pending investigation is released on the condition he or she consents to undergo further questioning. Police said he is not under surveillance, but it was unclear if he was allowed to leave the country.

N. Korea warns South over incursions

The Associated Press

SEOUL — North Korea warned South Korea on Thursday that a rash of "reckless" incursions at their disputed maritime border could spark a naval clash.

North Korea's navy accused South Korean warships of routinely broaching its territory in the waters off the divided peninsula's western coast.

"The reckless military provocations by warships of the South Korean navy have created such a serious situation that a naval clash may break out between the two sides in these waters," the military said in a statement carried by the North's official Korean Central News Agency.

South Korea said the North's warning could spark tension.

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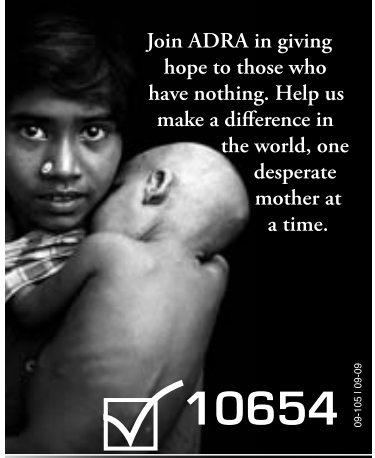

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IN THE STATES

Stats show U.S. foreclosure crisis growing

By Alan Zibel
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The number of households caught up in the foreclosure crisis rose more than 5 percent from summer to fall as a federal effort to assist struggling borrowers was overwhelmed by a flood of defaults among people who lost their jobs.

The foreclosure crisis affected nearly 938,000 properties in the July-September quarter, compared with about 890,000 in the prior three months, according to a report released Thursday by RealtyTrac Inc. That puts foreclosure-related filings on a pace to hit about 3.5 million this year, up from more than 2.3 million last year.

Unemployment is the main reason homeowners are falling into trouble. The unemployment rate — now at a 26-year high of 9.8 percent — isn't expected to peak until the middle of next year.

Mortgage companies sometimes allow unemployed homeowners to defer three to six months of payments while they are looking for a job. But there's little else they can do.

"The sheer scale of the problem is preventing the loan modification programs from having the kind of impact we'd all like," said Rick Sharga, RealtyTrac's senior vice president for marketing.

Last week, the Obama administration hailed a milestone in its mortgage relief effort, reporting that 500,000 homeowners have received help since the program was launched in March. But new defaults are still exceeding the number of borrowers getting help.

Mortgage companies have slowed down the pace of foreclosures as they evaluate whether borrowers qualify for the administration's program. Analysts, however, forecast that many of those homeowners won't qualify, and foresee a new wave of foreclosed properties hitting the market next year. That's likely to depress home prices even more.

Some homeowners are in such a massive financial hole that it's hard to design a modification that will actually provide lower payments. And some have avoided paying their monthly bills for a long time.

Carlos Estrada, 57, of Tulare, Calif., for example, hasn't made a mortgage payment since February 2008. The construction jobs that kept him working more than 40 hours a week during the housing boom have all but vanished.

Earlier this year, he turned down a modification offer from Bank of America because it would have incorporated his unpaid balance and raised his monthly bill. But a bank spokeswoman said Wednesday that Estrada's foreclosure sale had been postponed until late next month while the bank reviews whether he can qualify for help.

$7.5 billion in aid to Pakistan includes sovereignty assurances

By Foster Klug
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Thursday signed into law a $7.5 billion aid package for Pakistan that the U.S. ally's military criticized as American meddling in its internal affairs.

The measure provides $1.5 billion annually over five years for economic and social programs and comes as Pakistan faces a string of violent militant attacks and bombings as its military plans an offensive into the Taliban heartland.

The law is an attempt by the Obama administration to strengthen the weak civilian government in Islamabad and encourage its fight against Taliban and al-Qaida militants operating along the border with Afghanistan, where the United States is fighting an eight-year war.

Nuclear-armed Pakistan's stability is deemed crucial to U.S.-led efforts to battle extremists in South Asia.

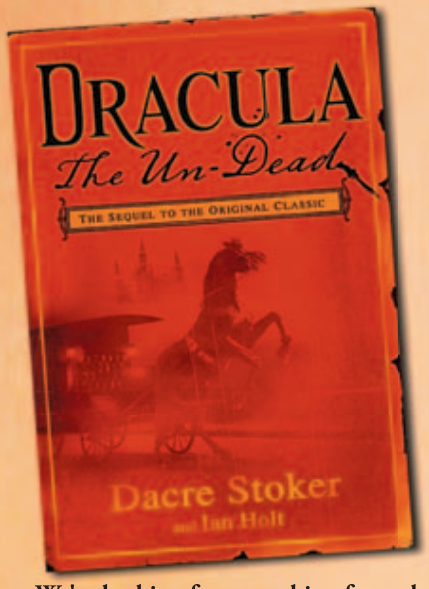
The White House said the law, which was passed unanimously by Congress, is "the tangible manifestation of broad support for Pakistan in the U.S."

But it was only signed after a rushed visit this week to Washington by Pakistan's foreign minister, who secured assurances from senior U.S. lawmakers that the bill is not an attempt to micromanage operations by the powerful military and the U.S.-backed civilian government.

The bill was not changed before Obama signed it. Democratic Sen. John Kerry and Democratic Rep. Howard Berman, however, did provide an unusual written statement to accompany the bill that states that "any interpretation of this act which suggests that the United States does not fully recognize and respect the sovereignty of Pakistan would be directly contrary to congressional intent."

Pakistan's military and others, however, have objected to language that links money for counterterrorism assistance to Pakistan cracking down on militancy and meeting other conditions.

The legislation requires the U.S. Secretary of State to report to Congress every six months on whether Pakistan's civilian government maintains effective control over the military's budgets, chain of command and top promotions.



Stripes

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The frighteningly lucky vampire wannabe who receives the most votes will win the Grand Prize and fly off (with the victim of his choice) to gloomy Transylvania AND a signed copy of Dacre Stoker's new book DRACULA THE UN-DEAD. Ten additional Prize Winners will also receive signed copies of DRACULA THE UN-DEAD, courtesy of Stripes Book Club!

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- The Effective Cost may not be ¥0 if the discount is rendered ineffective due to contract cancellation or change, handset up-grade, or other applicable conditions.
- The Monthly Discount does not apply to the actual cost of the handset.
- Please direct questions concerning handset deposits to your local SoftBank Shop.
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FACES

Country star Garth Brooks coming out of retirement

Country superstar Garth Brooks announced Thursday that he's coming out of retirement.

Brooks, 47, said at a news conference in Nashville that he will end his retirement.

The move has been rumored in the music industry for weeks.

"We're going to take the retirement roof off over our head, and I already feel taller," Brooks said Thursday.

Brooks said he has no immediate plans and will see how things go in the coming years.

"As for touring, if I can't eat it, sleep it, breathe it, then it ain't me," Brooks said.

Brooks retired in 2000 to spend more time with his three children. He's occasionally popped up in special appearances at awards shows and charity events, but has mostly stayed out of the limelight.

The Recording Industry Association of America honored Brooks in 2007 with a career award after he passed Elvis Presley to become the top-selling solo artist in U.S. history. At the time, he had sold more than 123 million albums.

Brooks' last studio album, "Scarecrow," was released in 2001.

AP file

Country music star Garth Brooks, shown in April, has confirmed the rumors that he is coming out of retirement.

MJ gets AMA nod

Michael Jackson has a chance to win artist of the year posthumously at the American Music Awards.

The pop superstar, who died on June 25, was among a diverse group of artists nominated Tuesday for the top honor. Country star Taylor Swift, rapper Eminem, breakthrough rockers Kings of Leon and flamboyant pop star Lady Gaga were the other nominees.

Swift topped all artists with six nominations. Jackson followed Swift with five nominations and Eminem received four.

Winners are determined by an online vote of fans and will be announced on Nov. 22.

hot dish

A spokesman for **Leona Lewis** says the singer has been hit by a young man at a book signing session at a central London store. Stuart Bell said Lewis was signing autographs and posing for photographs Wednesday when a man from the line came up and hit her. He was immediately led away by security guards and later arrested by police. Bell said Lewis has gone to see a doctor as a precaution.

— The Associated Press

LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

Actor George Clooney arrives with Italian actress Elisabetta Canalis for the world premiere of the film "Fantastic Mr. Fox" at the London Film Festival on Wednesday. Wes Anderson's stop-motion kid-flick is adapted from Roald Dahl's book about the battle between a suave, chicken-stealing fox and evil farmers Boggis, Bunce and Bean.

Jason Schwartzman, Bill Murray, Willem Dafoe, Michael Gambon and musician Jarvis Cocker also provide voices for the playfully lo-fi feature, which brings the hipster sensibility of Anderson's "Rushmore" and "Royal Tenenbaums" to Dahl's children's classic.

Clooney is a major presence at this year's festival, also playing a psychic researcher for the U.S. military in Grant Hestov's "The Men Who Stare at Goats" and a smooth management consultant in Jason Reitman's "Up in the Air." The festival wraps up Oct. 29.

— The Associated Press

Stripes file

World Wrestling Entertainment superstar Kane has John Cena in a chokehold. WWE shows, including "Monday Night Raw," are toning down their content to make it more friendly to families.

WHAM!

WWE stressing family-friendly wrestling

Bob Barker, Shaquille O'Neal, Ozzy Osbourne, Al Sharpton and Cedric the Entertainer aren't who you'd expect to see when turning on World Wrestling Entertainment programming. OK, maybe Ozzy.

All are featured guests this fall with the WWE as Vince McMahon's machine undergoes some image polishing and stresses a family friendly approach.

They've toned down the language, gotten rid of the fake blood. The lingerie matches are gone, with the Divas now wearing the type of workout clothes common at the gym. Characters who are popular with youngsters, such as John Cena and Rey Mysterio, get more screen time, and the WWE Kids magazine debuted last year.

McMahon

The WWE has worked with networks that air their programming to change parental guidance ratings from TV-14 to PG.

"We just followed our audience and tried to listen to them," McMahon, WWE chairman, said. "It's a more sophisticated product. It's just the right move business-wise, but more specifically the right move in terms of reaching our audience."

McMahon said it's been a gradual process, with the company now trying to spread the word to potential viewers and advertisers who might not have given the soap opera in tights a second look.

The WWE's programming is spread across several networks: "Monday Night Raw" airs for two hours on USA; the SyFy network shows "Extreme Championship Wrestling" on Tuesdays; WGN America shows "WWE Superstars" on Thursdays; and "Friday Night Smackdown," which just celebrated its 10th anniversary, is on My Network TV. Several of these shows are aired on American Forces Network.

During the peak of what the company refers to as its "attitude era" a decade ago, the WWE's audience was dominated by young men. While its popularity has waned, the fan base has simultaneously grown older and younger with new constituencies, according to audience research. A little more than a third of its audience is female. The audience is ethnically more diverse that most shows: 62 percent of audience is white; 20 percent of the viewership is black and 23 percent is Hispanic — Hispanics were counted as both white and Hispanic. It's the most-watched English-language show on cable among Hispanics, the company said.

With the Ultimate Fighting Championship and mixed martial arts becoming more popular as competitors, it made little sense for the WWE to ramp up the attitude with violence and sexuality, McMahon said. "You really can't compete with that," he said. "Why not deliver a more sophisticated product and not go to those extremes? If the audience wants those extremes, they know where to go and how to get it."

Going PG has helped the company draw advertisers who might have looked away before. Pepsi, 7-Eleven stores, Mattel toys and the Army National Guard are among the sponsors that have signed up since the shift, the company said.

The association with steroids also hurt. Anabolic steroids were found in the home of wrestler Chris Benoit after he killed his wife, 7-year-old son and himself in their suburban Atlanta home two years ago. McMahon toughened the WWE's drug testing rules.

"Their public image was pretty bad," said Dave Meltzer, publisher of the trade publication Wrestling Observer Newsletter. "They took a major hit, and said 'we've got to become a kinder, nicer company.'"

On the Net: www.wwe.com

— David Bauder/The Associated Press

FAITH

Afghanistan's lone Jew

PHOTOS BY DAVID GOLDMAN/AP

Zebulon Simentov, the last known Jew living in Afghanistan, kisses his prayer book while observing Shabbat, the Jewish Sabbath, in his Kabul home. Simentov, about 50, is the caretaker and sole member of Afghanistan's only working synagogue. Simentov's wife and children moved to Israel years ago, but he stayed even through the Taliban regime. He was born in the western Afghan city of Herat in 1959 and says Afghanistan is home.

From left: Simentov lights the candles at the start of Shabbat. A shofar, or ram's horn, and Hebrew texts sit where a Torah was once kept in the synagogue overseen by Simentov. Simentov recites the Hebrew blessing for the challah, the traditional Jewish loaf of bread used on Shabbat, substituted by Afghan flat bread.

Simentov lives alone in the dilapidated two-story synagogue building and gets by on donations from Jews abroad and sympathetic local Muslims. Though Simentov has a Muslim friend who visits a few times a week, he spends most of his days in the company of his pet partridge, reading a Hebrew prayer book and watching Afghan TV.

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YOUR MONEY

VA, lawmakers share blame for GI Bill delay

MILITARY UPDATE

Tom Philpott

Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki got a bipartisan hug from the House Veterans Affairs Committee on Wednesday as lawmakers accepted his plan to fix Post-9/11 GI Bill payment delays, and blamed their own rush to enact the complex education benefit last year for some of the challenges VA now faces.

Shinseki

Many veterans using new GI Bill benefits for fall classes had not received their monthly living allowance or lump sum book stipend by early October. In response, Shinseki authorized emergency payments of up to $3,000, supplied through VA's 57 regional offices or by registering for the payment online. Within two days of the Oct. 2 start of emergency payments, 25,000 students either had received checks or expected them soon by mail.

A number of "complications" caused the payment delays, Shinseki explained. One factor was VA officials underestimated the number of claim processors they needed by the Aug. 3 start date. Early estimates were based on processing time under the Montgomery GI Bill program, he said.

But processing Mongomery GI Bill payments involves two to three steps and takes an average of 15 minutes versus nine steps and more than an hour to process a Post-9/11 GI Bill application, Shinseki explained. Unlike Montgomery GI Bill benefits, Post-9/11 payments vary by school location and other unique factors.

Though processors get an assist from computers, they review applications manually. By mid-November, Shinseki said, an upgrade should speed the process enough to clear the current backlog and avoid payment delays in the spring semester.

Another factor is that some colleges have been slow in sending certificates of enrollment for students using the GI Bill to the VA. VA needs the certificates before reimbursing schools for tuition and fees or paying living allowances and book stipends directly to students.

Shinseki said he liked an idea, raised by Rep. Steve Buyer, R-Ind., ranking member on the committee, to modify the law so that future payments to students are handled separately from school reimbursements.

Committee leaders exchanged congratulations with Shinseki on working together on a bill the president will sign this month that allows Congress, starting next year, to fund VA health care budgets a year in advance, thus ending annual funding delays for VA facilities tied to politics.

More kind words were exchanged with Shinseki over his cooperation on a 2010 VA budget that surpasses last year's budget by $14.5 billion, and will exceed for a third straight year the "Independent Budget" proposed annually for VA by major veterans' service organizations.

Both Rep. Bob Filner, D-Calif., committee chairman, and Buyer praised Shinseki for integrity and candor in promptly revealing and addressing problems that have surfaced at VA since he took charge last February.

"We think you're doing a great job," said Filner. "I know you were called a soldier's soldier when you were in the Army. And now I'm calling you a veteran's veteran."

Shinseki listed the major challenges and mistakes of recent months in his opening statement. Besides a rough start launching the new GI Bill, they include a rising backlog of veterans' benefit claims, lapses at several VA medical centers in disinfecting endoscopes and other reusable VA medical equipment; and a mailing to 1,800 veterans advising them erroneously that they had been diagnosed with ALS, or Lou Gehrig's disease.

As if encouraging Shinseki to remain as secretary despite the challenges, lawmaker after lawmaker said Congress must share the blame for GI Bill payment delays that generated plenty of phone calls and e-mails to their offices from student veterans in financial binds.

"Congress should accept some of the blame for creating such a complex and difficult benefit to administer," said Buyer. "I will acknowledge we created this challenge and the burden lies upon you to supervise and find a way to prevent the delays that are causing the financial difficulties."

"The great thing about a good organization is when you don't get the assumptions right, you react," Shinseki said, explaining that it took only a week for program officials to put the emergency payment plan together.

He praised Veterans' Benefits Administration employees for working hard to implement the program as best they could with too small a staff and with computer technology that couldn't be upgraded in a timely way.

"We do have some problems. It's not the VA's fault. You guys have been working very, very hard," said Rep. John Boozman, R-Ark.

To comment, e-mail milupdate@aol.com, write to Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centreville, VA, 20120-1111 or visit: www.militaryupdate.com

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese yen (Oct. 16)	87.00
South Korean won (Oct. 16)	1,130.00
Euro costs (Oct. 16)	$1.5260
Dollar buys (Oct. 16)	€ 0.6553
British pound (Oct. 16)	$1.67
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	$1.6239
Canada (Dollar)	1.0304
China (Yuan)	6.8285
Denmark (Krone)	4.9975
Egypt (Pound)	5.4773
Euro	$1.4902/0.6711
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7500
Hungary (Forint)	179.37
Israel (Shekel)	3.7090
Japan (Yen)	90.59
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2861
Norway (Krone)	5.5786
Philippines (Peso)	46.29
Poland (Zloty)	2.83
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7503
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3915
South Korea (Won)	1,157.20
Switzerland (Franc)	1.0167
Thailand (Baht)	33.49
Turkey (New Lira)	1.4468

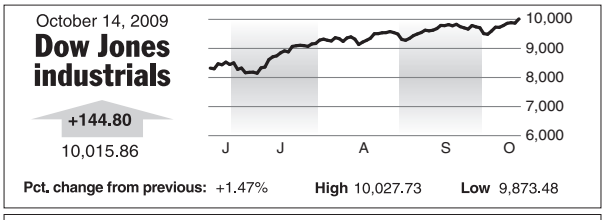
(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

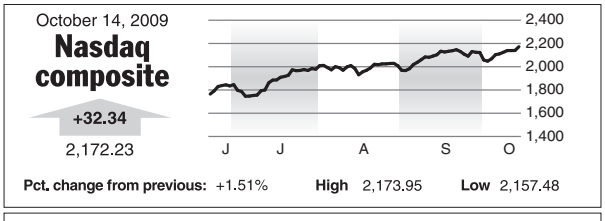
INTEREST RATES

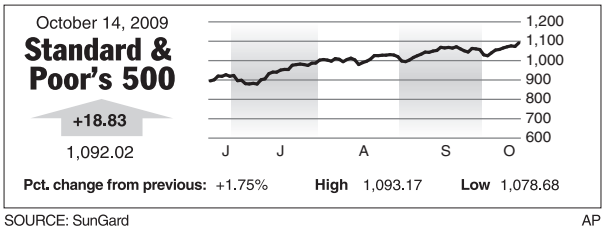
Prime rate	3.25
Discount rate	0.50
Federal funds market rate	0.00-0.25
3-month bill	0.06
30-year bond	4.27

Sources: Bank of America, The Associated Press

A DAY ON WALL STREET







SOURCE: SunGard AP

AP

Workers with the California Conservation Corps clear hiking trails in Hemet, Calif., in March. Businesses that received federal contracts under the economic stimulus are reporting more than 30,000 jobs saved or created in the first months of the program.

Stimulus saved or created 30,000 jobs, report claims

BY MATT APUZZO
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Businesses receiving federal contracts under President Barack Obama's economic stimulus program reported creating or saving more than 30,000 jobs in the first months of the program, according to data released Thursday by a government oversight board.

The numbers, based on jobs linked to less than $16 billion in federal contracts, represent just a sliver of the $787 billion stimulus package. But they offer the first hard data on the early effects of the program. Until now, the White House has relied on economic models to argue that the program created jobs and eased the recession. Critics point to rising unemployment to argue it wasn't worth the cost.

Jared Bernstein, the chief economic adviser to Vice President Joe Biden, said it was too early to draw conclusions from the data "but the early indications are quite positive."

GAS PRICES

Country	Unleaded	Super unleaded	Super plus	Diesel
Japan/Okinawa	--	$2.459	--	$2.445
Change in price	--	+1.4 cents	--	+1.8 cents
South Korea	$2.582	--	$2.820	$2.693
Change in price	+2.1 cents	--	+1.6 cents	+1.8 cents
Guam	$2,739*	$2.799	$2.909	--
Change in price	No change	No change	+1.0 cents	--

For the week of October 17 - 23 * Midgrade

Teen set afire during squabble over bike, game

By Diana Moskovitz and Julie Brown
McClatchy Newspapers

MIAMI — Four days ago, Michael Brewer Jr. was celebrating his 15th birthday with his family, a happy teenager doing back flips in the swimming pool.

On Wednesday, the slight, blonde-haired teenager was heavily bandaged in intensive care at the University of Miami-Jackson Memorial Burn Center, suffering burns on 65 percent of his body. Gone were his eyebrows and eyelashes along with most of the hair on the right side of his head. If he survives, his recovery will take months, say doctors.

The Deerfield Beach, Fla., seventh-grader was set afire by five schoolmates who attacked him during a squabble over a video game and a bicycle, according to authorities.

The only one to confess and show remorse for the act was the boy who set fire to Brewer, Jesus Mendez, 15, authorities said. He allegedly told a Broward, Fla., Sheriff's Office deputy he made "a bad decision" and just wanted to see what would happen.

Brewer

His sister, Malissa Durkee, said Wednesday the one encouraging sign is he opens his eyes every time he hears his mother's voice.

Brewer's parents have been at his bedside around the clock.

"We just don't understand why anyone would do this," said his mother, Valerie.

The suspects' lawyers, however, said the boys didn't fully understand the gravity of what happened and were confused and scared in court.

Authorities say Brewer, who was affectionately called "Mikey," was cornered by the boys Monday afternoon, a day after one of them, Matthew Aaron Bent, 15, allegedly tried to steal a bicycle from the Brewer home.

According to the sheriff's office, Bent was trying to take the bike as payment for a $40 video game that he had sold to Brewer.

The Brewers called police. Bent was arrested on theft charges and released Monday.

That same day, fearing retaliation, Brewer stayed home from school. He left the house in the afternoon, telling his sister he was going to meet some friends.

According to witnesses and Mendez's confession, Bent ordered them to pour rubbing alcohol over Brewer after surrounding him at an apartment complex. Denver Colorado Jarvis, 15, then doused him with the fluid. Shortly thereafter, Mendez took a lighter to him, and Brewer went up in flames.

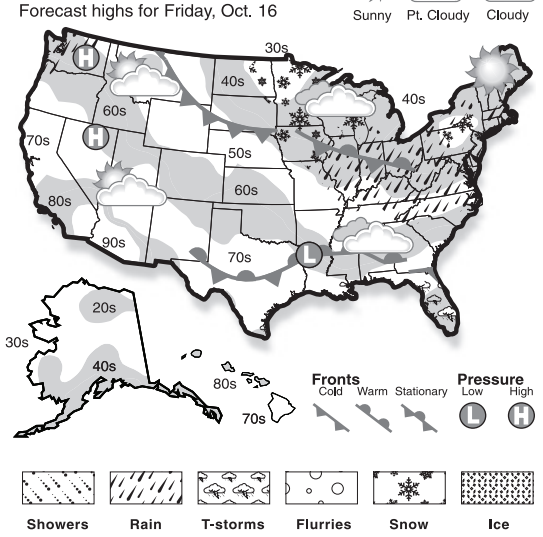
Two other boys, Jarvis's brother, Jeremy, and Steven Shelton, 15, stood by, saying nothing, according to the sheriff's office.

Mendez faces charges of attempted second-degree murder; Bent, Shelton, Denver Jarvis and Jeremy Jarvis were charged with aggravated battery.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

National forecast

Forecast highs for Friday, Oct. 16



Stormy Weather In East

Low pressure will move into the western Atlantic Ocean, while it's associated fronts stretch across the Ohio Valley and the Southeast. The fronts will kick up mixed precipitation in the East. High pressure in the West will produce fairly quiet weather activity.

Weather Underground • AP

Thursday's global temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	La Paz	65	29	pc
Amsterdam	51	35	Clr	Lima	67	60	Cldy
Athens	66	53	pc	Lisbon	84	66	Clr
Auckland	64	51	Rain	London	58	50	Rain
Baghdad	98	71	Clr	Madrid	80	47	Clr
Basra	103	72	Clr	Managua	91	73	pc
Bahrain	88	76	Clr	Manila	81	74	Rain
Bangkok	90	76	pc	Mecca	104	80	Clr
Barbados	89	79	pc	Melbourne	59	46	Rain
Barcelona	73	59	Clr	Mexico City	78	57	pc
Beijing	77	42	Clr	Montevideo	52	50	Rain
Beirut	82	70	pc	Montreal	39	30	pc
Belgrade	46	39	Rain	Moscow	62	48	Rain
Berlin	46	35	pc	Nairobi	83	55	pc
Bermuda	77	69	Rain	Nassau	90	77	Clr
Bogota	66	50	Rain	New Delhi	93	68	pc
Brasilia	80	66	Rain	Nice	69	55	pc
Brisbane	89	63	Clr	Osaka	75	60	Rain
Brussels	48	33	Clr	Oslo	41	23	Clr
Bucharest	54	38	Rain	Panama	87	75	Rain
Budapest	42	37	Rain	Paris	53	39	pc
Buenos Aires	58	52	Rain	Perth	75	46	Clr
Cairo	86	68	Clr	Prague	38	34	Rain
Calgary	32	20	Snow	Rio de Janeiro	80	68	Rain
Caracas	91	77	Clr	Rome	62	44	Clr
Colombo	86	77	Rain	San Jose	79	64	Rain
Copenhagen	46	37	Clr	San Juan	89	78	Rain
Dhahran	98	69	Clr	San Salvador	87	69	pc
Dhaka	93	76	Clr	Santiago	66	50	pc
Dili	89	72	Clr	Sao Paulo	84	57	pc
Dubai	98	79	Clr	Sapporo	59	43	Rain
Dublin	57	53	Rain	Seoul	66	50	Rain
Frankfurt	45	33	pc	Singapore	89	77	Rain
Geneva	52	41	Clr	Sofia	48	33	Snow
Guatemala	78	62	pc	Stockholm	41	32	Snow
Hanoi	77	69	Rain	Sydney	73	59	Rain
Harare	87	60	pc	Taipei	77	73	Rain
Havana	93	73	Rain	Tegucigalpa	85	57	Clr
Helsinki	41	28	Clr	Tehran	80	62	Clr
Hong Kong	86	78	Rain	Tel Aviv	86	67	Clr
Islamabad	90	62	Clr	Tokyo	68	60	Rain
Istanbul	61	52	Rain	Turin	60	39	Clr
Jakarta	92	75	Clr	Toronto	44	34	Clr
Jerusalem	86	67	Clr	Tunis	75	64	Rain
Johannesburg	79	54	pc	Valletta	72	60	Rain
Kabul	75	46	Clr	Vancouver	61	49	Rain
Kiev	50	39	Rain	Vienna	44	38	Rain
Kuala Lumpur	90	73	Rain	Warsaw	35	32	Snow
Kuwait	102	68	Clr	Zurich	47	32	Rain

SATURDAY'S FORECAST

The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

Friday's U.S. temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Wthr	Casper	60	33	PCldy	Erie	43	37	Rain	Jacksonville	78	69	Cldy	Montgomery	70	58	Clr	Richmond	51	45	Cldy	Spokane	60	41	Cldy
Abilene,Tex.	73	50	Clr	Charleston,S.C.	69	59	Cldy	Eugene	73	45	Cldy	Juneau	47	37	Rain	Nashville	57	45	Cldy	Roanoke	51	42	Cldy	Springfield,Ill.	48	38	Cldy
Akron,Ohio	42	34	Rain	Charleston,W.Va.	47	44	Cldy	Evansville	52	42	Cldy	Kansas City	52	39	Cldy	New Orleans	75	69	PCldy	Rochester	42	32	Cldy	Springfield,Mo.	51	42	Cldy
Albany,N.Y.	45	32	Cldy	Charlotte,N.C.	60	49	Cldy	Fairbanks	36	20	Cldy	Key West	89	80	PCldy	New York City	45	42	Rain	Rockford	47	36	Cldy	Syracuse	45	32	Cldy
Albuquerque	76	49	Clr	Chattanooga	60	50	Cldy	Fargo	38	31	Cldy	Knoxville	57	46	Cldy	Newark	46	43	Rain	Sacramento	79	54	Clr	Tallahassee	78	70	Cldy
Allentown,Pa.	41	35	Rain	Cheyenne	55	36	PCldy	Flagstaff	70	36	Clr	Lake Charles	74	60	PCldy	Norfolk,Va.	55	50	Cldy	St Louis	50	40	Cldy	Tampa	84	76	Rain
Amarillo	67	46	PCldy	Chicago	47	39	Cldy	Flint	46	34	Cldy	Lansing	46	33	Cldy	North Platte	59	37	PCldy	St Petersburg	84	77	Rain	Toledo	47	36	Cldy
Anchorage	43	31	Cldy	Cincinnati	46	39	Cldy	Fort Smith	64	46	PCldy	Las Vegas	88	64	Clr	Oklahoma City	64	49	Clr	St Thomas	88	79	PCldy	Topeka	57	38	Cldy
Asheville	55	44	Cldy	Cleveland	45	36	Rain	Fort Wayne	44	36	Cldy	Lexington	47	41	Cldy	Omaha	50	35	Cldy	Salem,Ore.	72	50	Cldy	Tucson	95	60	Clr
Atlanta	65	51	PCldy	Colorado Springs	64	39	PCldy	Fresno	82	58	Clr	Lincoln	52	35	Cldy	Orlando	86	74	Rain	Salt Lake City	66	42	Clr	Tulsa	63	45	PCldy
Atlantic City	50	46	Rain	Columbia,S.C.	68	52	Cldy	Goodland	64	38	Clr	Little Rock	60	49	Cldy	Paducah	53	44	Cldy	San Angelo	77	53	Clr	Tupelo	55	49	Rain
Austin	75	59	Clr	Columbus,Ga.	68	61	Clr	Grand Junction	70	42	Clr	Los Angeles	90	61	Clr	Pendleton	66	47	PCldy	San Antonio	77	62	Clr	Waco	75	58	PCldy
Baltimore	46	43	Rain	Columbus,Ohio	43	39	Rain	Grand Rapids	46	33	Cldy	Louisville	49	42	Cldy	Peoria	48	37	Cldy	San Diego	78	62	Clr	Washington,D.C.	50	47	Rain
Baton Rouge	71	64	PCldy	Concord,N.H.	47	29	Cldy	Great Falls	61	35	PCldy	Lubbock	70	51	PCldy	Philadelphia	48	40	Rain	San Francisco	71	58	PCldy	W.Palm Beach	90	73	Cldy
Billings	60	35	PCldy	Corpus Christi	78	68	Cldy	Green Bay	46	35	Cldy	Macon	71	59	Clr	Phoenix	98	69	Clr	San Jose	77	57	Clr	Wichita	64	41	PCldy
Birmingham	56	50	Cldy	Dallas-Ft Worth	73	56	PCldy	Greensboro,N.C.	58	45	Cldy	Madison	46	35	Cldy	Pittsburgh	41	35	Rain	San Juan,P.R.	89	76	PCldy	Wichita Falls	72	50	Clr
Bismarck	43	31	Cldy	Dayton	43	36	Cldy	Harrisburg	42	37	Rain	Medford	79	49	PCldy	Pocatello	65	39	PCldy	Santa Fe	72	40	Clr	Wilkes-Barre	38	35	Snow
Boise	70	47	PCldy	Daytona Beach	83	74	Rain	Hartford Spgfld	41	35	Rain	Memphis	63	45	Rain	Portland,Maine	47	31	Cldy	St Ste Marie	43	28	PCldy	Wilmington,Del.	47	40	Rain
Boston	44	39	Rain	Denver	63	38	PCldy	Helena	63	35	PCldy	Miami Beach	90	76	Cldy	Portland,Ore.	68	53	Cldy	Savannah	73	62	Cldy	Yakima	65	45	Cldy
Bridgeport	47	39	Rain	Des Moines	47	36	Cldy	Honolulu	86	72	Clr	Midland-Odessa	75	51	Clr	Providence	45	39	Rain	Seattle	64	52	Rain	Youngstown	41	35	Rain
Brownsville	89	78	Cldy	Detroit	45	36	Cldy	Houston	77	63	PCldy	Milwaukee	45	39	Cldy	Pueblo	68	37	PCldy	Shreveport	69	55	Cldy				
Buffalo	42	32	Cldy	Duluth	41	33	Cldy	Huntsville	62	51	Cldy	Mpls-St Paul	42	33	Cldy	Raleigh-Durham	59	46	Cldy	Sioux City	47	35	Cldy				
Burlington,Vt.	44	26	Cldy	El Paso	84	59	Clr	Indianapolis	46	39	Cldy	Missoula	59	35	Cldy	Rapid City	51	33	Cldy	Sioux Falls	44	33	Cldy				
Caribou,Maine	46	23	Clr	Elkins	43	37	Rain	Jackson,Miss.	61	55	Cldy	Mobile	73	64	PCldy	Reno	76	44	Clr	South Bend	46	37	Cldy				

National temperature extremes
High: Weds., 100 at McAllen, Texas
Low: Weds., 13 at Spincich Lake, Mich.

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Stars and Stripes (USPS 017252) is published daily (except Christmas and New Year's) for 50 cents daily and $1 Sunday by the Stars and Stripes central office, 529 14th St. NW, Suite 350, Washington DC 20045-1301. Periodicals postage paid at San Francisco, Calif. Postmaster. Send address changes to Pacific Stars and Stripes, Unit 45002, APO AP 96338-5002.

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OPINION

Pick your poison: Censorship or abuse

BY ANDRES OPPENHEIMER
The Miami Herald

MEXICO CITY

If you look at the culture pages in Mexico's newspapers these days, there is little question about what's the talk of the town in literary circles — old men having sex with young girls.

In addition to headlines about filmmaker Roman Polanski's recent arrest in Switzerland over 1970s U.S. charges that he had sex with a 13-year-old girl, Mexican intellectuals are embroiled in a bitter debate over whether a planned movie based on Gabriel Garcia Marquez's book "Memories of my Melancholy Whores" would glorify the sexual exploitation of children.

[U]nlike most cultural debates ... this time there is a split among the literati.

Earlier this month, the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Coalition Against Child Trafficking, which says it represents 300 organizations, filed a lawsuit in Mexico to stop the movie's production.

The filming was set to begin Oct. 26 in the state of Puebla, sponsored among others, by the state government. Puebla Gov. Mario Marin, who had been at the center of a political scandal for allegedly protecting a convicted child abuser four years ago, withdrew his state's $1.6 million support for the $8 million movie after the lawsuit was filed. The shooting has now been temporarily postponed, producers say.

"Memories of my Melancholy Whores" tells the story of a 90-year-old man who, as a birthday present to himself, decides to have sex with a 14-year-old virgin. He asks the owner of a brothel to find a girl, who is drugged in order not to resist her rape.

Teresa Ulloa, head of the coalition that filed the lawsuit, told reporters that the movie would reach a much wider audience than Garcia Marquez's book, and would thus do more harm. Ulloa's group filed the lawsuit under Mexican laws prohibiting the promotion of child prostitution.

According to children's rights advocacy groups, more than 80,000 girls under 15 are currently being exploited as prostitutes in Mexico, most of them in Mexico City. Many of them — much like in Garcia Marquez's book — are brought from the countryside by brothels, at the request of clients.

But unlike most cultural debates, in which intellectuals tend to side against religious or civic groups advocating censorship, this time there is a split among the literati.

Lydia Cacho, an award-winning columnist who has exposed child trafficking rings in Mexico, wrote a column in the daily El Universal last week lashing out against Garcia Marquez and the movie producers.

"Why did Garcia Marquez accept taking to the screen 'Memories of my Melancholy Whores' just at a time when the world is fighting against the growing commercial exploitation of girls?" Cacho asked. "This is not about censorship or prudishness, but about the need of an in-depth debate about the ideological support for child exploitation."

In a telephone interview, Cacho told me that while other renowned authors such as Vladimir Nabokov and Yasunari Kawabata wrote novels about child prostitution, their fictional characters faced internal struggles about their sexual urges and almost invariably ended up badly.

Conversely, in Garcia Marquez's novel, which she described as "mediocre," the old man and the girl end up in love, she said.

Cacho added that just as freedom-of-expression groups have condemned the intentional glorification of torture or racial hatred in art works under certain circumstances, there should be an open debate on whether to also condemn prominent authors who glorify the exploitation of minors by presenting it as romantic relationships.

Several other writers countered that prohibiting the movie would amount to censorship, which would set a precedent.

Author Juan Villoro told the daily Reforma that Garcia Marquez's book does not advocate pedophilia, just like Shakespeare's "Hamlet" did not advocate killing one's stepfather. Works or art should not be seen as "manuals of conduct" but merely as depictions of life, he said.

My opinion: I hope the Mexican courts rule against the petition to stop the movie's production because it would set a dangerous precedent. But I also hope that the movie's producers put a few lines in the script to somehow portray the grimmer side of the story.

In the end, this is a healthy debate, which will draw public attention in Mexico to the growing problem of sexual exploitation of minors, which has rarely been a top issue here. In that sense, everybody wins.

Andres Oppenheimer is a Latin America correspondent for The Miami Herald.

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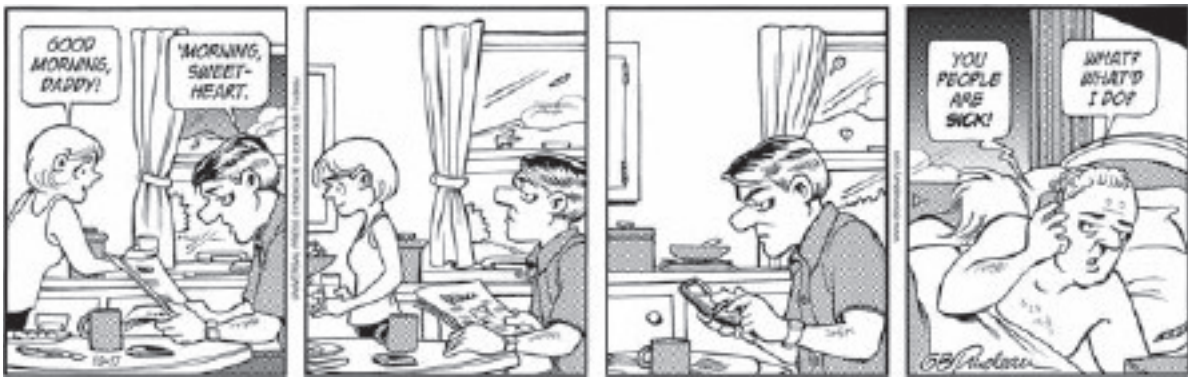
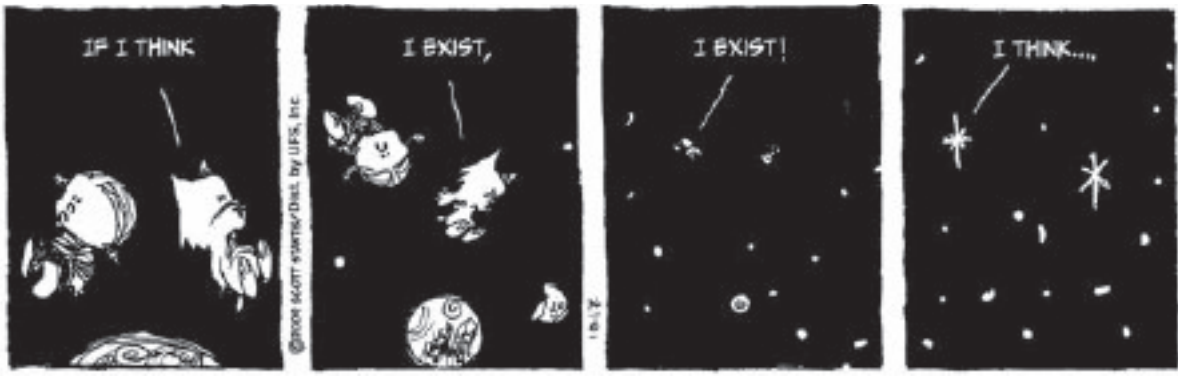
Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



Prickly City

BY SCOTT STANTIS



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A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons

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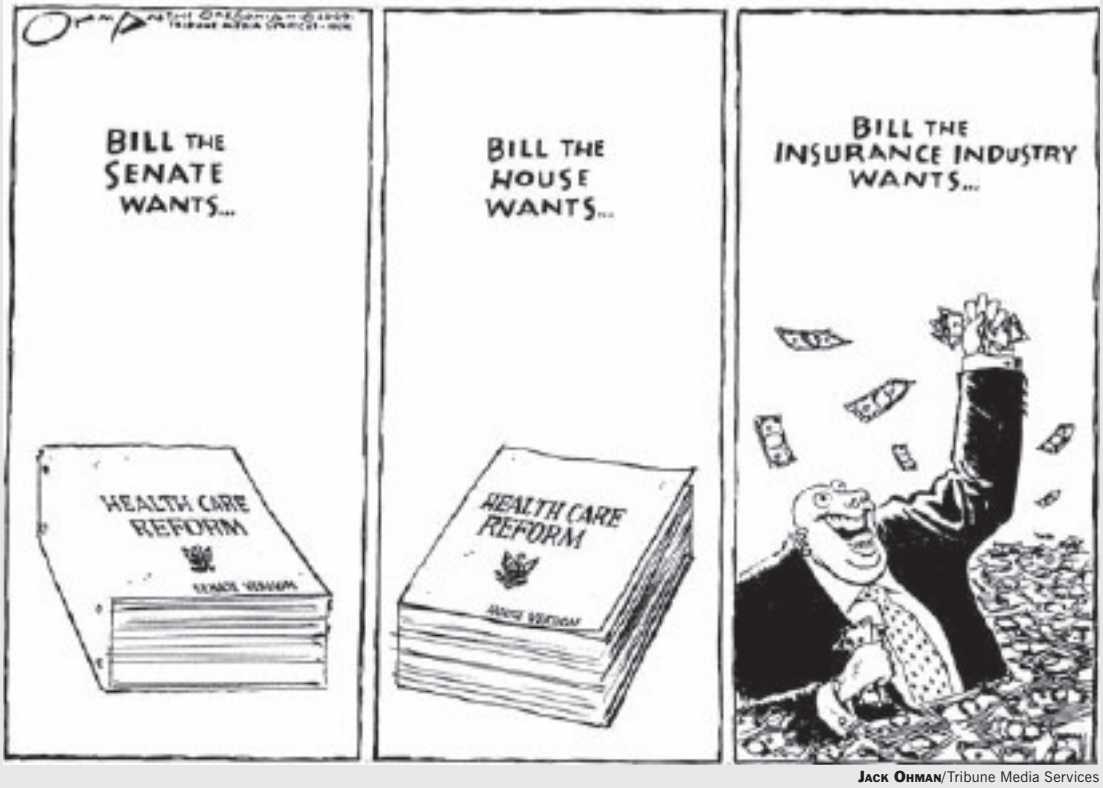


JACK OHMAN/Tribune Media Services

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Cleveland acquires bomb-sniffing dogs

OH CLEVELAND — Cleveland's transit police have acquired three dogs trained to sniff for bombs along the area's bus and train system.

The newest members of the Regional Transit Authority's K-9 force have arrived.

Three RTA transit officers have gone to San Antonio for 10 weeks of training on handling the dogs. The course is run by the Transportation Security Administration, which uses bomb-sniffing dogs at airports.

Lawmaker seeks to legalize hemp crops

KY LEXINGTON — A Kentucky lawmaker has introduced legislation to legalize industrial hemp as a cash crop and a source for alternative fuels.

Sen. Joey Pendleton, a Democrat from Hopkinsville in southern Kentucky, said the time is right to cash in on hemp because the plant is already legal for research purposes in Kentucky, along with seven other states, and Congress has legislation before it to decriminalize hemp.

Industrial hemp is used in alternative automobile fuels and in such products as paper, cloths, cosmetics and carpet. Currently, all hemp included in products sold in the United States must be imported.

Pendleton's bill would require people wanting to grow or process industrial hemp to be licensed by the state Department of Agriculture; would require criminal history checks of growers; and sheriffs would have to monitor and randomly test industrial hemp fields.

12 years after divorce, wife gets dough mixer

NJ FAIRFIELD — Twelve years after her divorce, Karin Seruga finally got what she really wanted: A dough mixer.

Not just any dough mixer. This one is 6 feet tall, 4 feet wide and weighs 2 tons. The machine was developed in Switzerland a century ago and is used by commercial bakeries around the world to make their pastries light and fluffy.

The Artofex triple-action mixer isn't for Seruga's kitchen; it's for her bakery-machine business. A federal judge has ruled that she has the right to make and sell it in the U.S. and awarded her $570,000 in a bitter legal battle with her ex-husband, who runs a competing enterprise.

County OKs continuing jail immigration reviews

AZ PHOENIX — County officials in Arizona have approved an agreement that would let 60 county jail officers continue to check on the immigration status of jail inmates.

The 3-2 vote by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors moves Sheriff Joe Arpaio a step closer to renewing a deal that grants special federal immigration powers to jail officers.

The deal has been signed by Arpaio and is awaiting a signature from an official with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which grants the federal powers.

The sheriff complained that ICE cut his federal powers in half when it wouldn't renew a deal that lets 100 deputies make federal immigration arrests.

Critics say Arpaio's immigration efforts were fraught with racial profiling. The sheriff denies that charge.

Investigators expose illegal gun sales

NY NEW YORK — Undercover private investigators posing as buyers at gun shows in Tennessee, Ohio and Nevada bought weapons illegally from 19 our of 30 sellers, according to a report released by New York City's mayor.

The $1.5 million operation, which was caught on video, was Mayor Michael Bloomberg's latest effort to highlight a legal loophole in several U.S. states that allows private unlicensed dealers to sell weapons at gun shows without conducting background checks, making it easier for criminals to buy guns.

While federal law bars them from selling guns to people they have reason to believe would fail background checks, the videos show the sales happening even after the fake buyers said they wouldn't pass one.

"I couldn't pass one either," one seller responded.

Trail trot

Liz Lockyer rides along a trail in the Cleveland Metroparks Rocky River Reservation in North Olmsted, Ohio.

Religious group in political fray

HI HONOLULU — In the last 50 years, religious conservatives have scored few victories in Hawaii. They did manage to oust a half-dozen pro-gay marriage lawmakers and lead a successful drive for a constitutional amendment to reject same-sex marriages a decade ago.

Beyond that, they've had little influence in a state known for its moderate to liberal leanings.

Catholic and evangelical Protestant leaders hope to push Hawaii politics rightward, preparing an election-year effort in 2010 to organize their parishioners into voting blocks that can help elect like-minded candidates. And they are hoping to use the issue of civil unions to get them there.

The state Legislature next year is expected to reconsider a proposal to allow gay and lesbian couples to form civil unions. The measure, which is on hold in the state Senate, generated some of the largest rallies ever seen at the normally placid Capitol earlier this year.

Governor replaces more forensic panel members

TX AUSTIN — The Texas Forensic Science Commission went through more reshuffling as Gov. Rick Perry removed a fourth member and named two appointees, including Fort Worth criminal defense attorney Lance Evans.

Evans, 45, was named to replace Sam Bassett, an Austin criminal defense attorney who had served as chairman of the nine-member commission. Perry also removed Sridhar Natarajan, a Lubbock, Texas, medical examiner, and named Bexar County, Texas, Medical Examiner Randall Frost as his replacement, the governor's office said.

The latest reshuffling came nine days after Perry removed Bassett and two other commissioners.

Man found crushed inside garbage bin

MT BILLINGS — Montana police say a man who may have been using a large garbage bin as shelter from the cold was apparently crushed when the bin was emptied.

The man's body was found in a city waste truck.

Billings police Sgt. Jay Berry said the victim was found "partially in a sleeping bag" and may have been using the garbage bin as shelter.

Yellowstone County Deputy Coroner Chad Fehr said the man died of blunt force injuries to the chest and that his death has been ruled accidental.

Mayor robbed while helping elderly man

CA SACRAMENTO — Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson said he was robbed in San Francisco as he was helping an elderly man.

In a blog posting, the former NBA star said he lost a suit, a pair of shoes and some personal items during his trip to attend a conference with representatives of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Anybody need a tow?

A tugboat moves up the Ohio River, as seen from the Eden Park overlook in Cincinnati.

All ears

Matt McCoy unloads corn into a dryer near Danville, Ky., at Caverndale Farms.

Canes for a cause

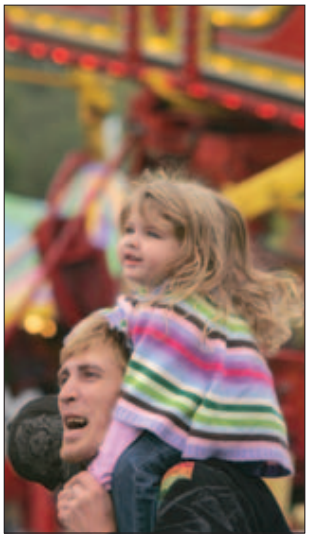
Willie Harrison, 15, smiles after arriving at Republic Square Park for White Cane Day in Austin, Texas. White Cane Day includes a walk to commemorate and celebrate the independence of Texans who are blind or visually impaired.

Falling for the view

A couple takes in the view from the ocean lookout ledges on 1,375-foot Mount Megunticook at Camden Hills State Park in Camden, Maine. The state's forest rangers, who have been tracking fall foliage for 50 years, are now using personal data assistants to send in fall foliage reports from the field.

Cows for sale

Derrill Osborn poses with some of the items in his bovine collection that will be offered at auction in Dallas. The former Neiman Marcus fashion executive has been collecting the items for nearly 50 years.



Fair fans

Sara Armstrong, 3, and her father, Jason Armstrong, of Clinton, Ark., watch some of the attractions at the Arkansas State Fair in Little Rock.

Wine on the vine

Ramona Avina harvests cabernet sauvignon grapes at Kiona Vineyards and Winery near Benton City, Wash. Recent cold weather has sped up the grape and apple harvest.

Farmers leave unsold tobacco curing in barns

MO ST. JOSEPH — Many Missouri farmers have left their tobacco curing in barns because they don't know where they can sell it after Philip Morris stopped buying from them last year.

Smoking bans, campaigns to cut tobacco use and increased cigarette taxes have lowered demand for tobacco, said Louis Smither, co-owner of the New Deal Tobacco Warehouse.

Some farmers are seeking new buyers out of state, where they can expect to get about $1 a pound minus transportation expenses.

Smither said it represents a sizable loss, even for farmers who don't rely heavily on tobacco.

Off-duty cop suspended after displaying handgun

NY HEMPSTEAD — Authorities said an off-duty New York City police officer who displayed a handgun while trying to quiet unruly passengers on a train has been arrested and suspended without pay.

Metropolitan Transportation Authority police said Officer David Hendrick was riding a Long Island Rail Road commuter train to Ronkonkoma, about 50 miles east of Manhattan. They said he showed his gun to quiet four passengers who had attended a New York Rangers hockey game.

Hendrick pleaded not guilty in Hempstead to a felony charge of criminal possession of a weapon and a lesser charge of menacing. He was held on $2,500 bond or $1,000 cash.

Narcs seize cash, TVs, truck during search

TX CORPUS CHRISTI — Narcotics officers seized more than $52,000, a 2008 GMC truck, four widescreen plasma televisions and other property while executing a search warrant.

Cmdr. Mark Schauer of the Corpus Christi Police Department wouldn't say what information or evidence led police to seek the warrant, but said the search was part of a larger investigation.

The items were seized from the home of an unemployed man who had been released from federal prison earlier this year. The money was stuffed in a duffel bag in a closet.

Cost of saving frog estimated at $507M

CA SACRAMENTO — Federal wildlife officials estimate that measures needed to protect the California red-legged frog will cost developers up to $507 million over the next two decades.

The estimate released by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service comes a year after the agency designated 1.8 million acres in 28 counties as habitat critical to the frog's survival.

The cost to developers of regulatory delays and of buying land elsewhere to offset projects they are building on frog habitat were among the factors federal officials considered.

Al Donner, a spokesman for the federal agency, said developers could save money if they start the regulatory process early.

Deputy commits suicide; cancer scam is alleged

OH MARION — An Ohio sheriff's deputy who committed suicide pretended for years that he had cancer while scamming his family and colleagues out of thousands of dollars in charitable donations to pay for phony medical bills, authorities said.

Marion County Deputy Sheriff Joe Russell, 39, shot himself in his home. An autopsy showed that he was healthy and did not have cancer.

"This was a fraud. This was a con," Sheriff Tim Bailey said at a news conference outlining details of the investigation.

Russell had fabricated notes from doctors to help pass off a story about how he was fighting cancer in his lungs, brain and testicles, Bailey said.

Harvard to digitize rare Chinese books

MA BOSTON — One of the most extensive collections of rare Chinese books outside China will be freely available as Harvard University has agreed to digitize the titles.

Representatives from the Harvard College Library and the National Library of China signed a deal to digitize more than 51,000 volumes in the Harvard collection. Some are more than 1,000 years old.

Viagra and porn sold in illegal food stamp scam

MI DETROIT — Viagra and pornography are not staples on the government's food stamp list. But authorities say a Detroit store supplied them during a series of illegal deals.

Federal prosecutors filed fraud charges against three people who worked at Jefferson's Liquor Palace.

The alleged scheme worked this way: Food stamp recipients would get cash from the store in exchange for swiping larger amounts off their electronic cards. The store would then be reimbursed by the U.S. Agriculture Department.

But in some transactions, the government the store provided informants Viagra, liquor and porn in exchange for swiping about $2,000 off food stamp cards.

The government says fraud at the store topped $130,000 over 2½ years. The store is closed.

Oil firm appeals $150M contamination ruling

MD TOWSON — Exxon Mobil says it has appealed a $150 million judgment awarded to dozens of Baltimore County families whose wells were contaminated during a 2006 gasoline spill.

An underground storage tank bled about 26,000 gallons of gasoline over 37 days in Jacksonville — a small, affluent community about 20 miles north of Baltimore.

Most of the families who sued Exxon received about $1 million each for emotional distress, plus the value of their homes and lifetime medical monitoring. Jurors found that the spill was accidental and did not award punitive damages.

Stories and photos from wire services

Horoscope

Holiday Mathis

The new moon in Libra presents a magical fresh start for an ailing or broken relationship. But the gift comes with a stipulation. If you take her up on the offering, you must agree to bury your grievance against the other person and never bring it up again. If the thought even crosses your mind, you are to shift gears immediately. Are you game?

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 17). This will be a colorful year. As you balance your desire for fame and wealth with a quest for self- and spiritual knowledge, you will find yourself in one novel experience after another. Travel is a featured part of the next 10 weeks. A signed contract is also part of the adventure. There's a financial blessing in June. Cancer and Aries people adore you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Even though it may seem to you at times that you are moving in slow motion, at least you are moving. You'll be surprised how it adds up. Remember what you were doing at this time last year? Well, you've come a long way.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You feel as if you have been blindfolded, spun around and asked to pin the tail on a donkey that might not even be there! An impossible situation, yes, but you've accomplished many impossible things in your lifetime.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Like a vegetarian who loves bacon, you have one or two personal idiosyncrasies that are inconsistent and endearing. Put the self-help books down for a while. You are right where you need to be.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You have been considering a dietary change, and this is a good time to try it out. You can always go back, and in the meantime, you will learn something about yourself and probably discover a new kind of delicious, too.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Some days it rains, and some days the rain comes down sideways and splatters on your window like it's mad at you. Your interpretation of dripping water — and everything else — makes all the difference in how you experience it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). A health issue that's been concerning you sees a resolution of sorts. Some things have once-and-for-all cures, and some require a little change in lifestyle. The important thing is that you are basically healthy and loved.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). A stickler for detail, your ability to pick out just the right color, line or song is why you are good at what you do. A rivalry between you and a colleague will only goad you on to better work.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Do you still have the same favorite color you did as a kid? Or do you have a favorite color at all? Silly as it might seem, even a little personal reflection such as this can bring a sudden wash of memory and a new self-appreciation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Sure, there's a big contrast between your fantasy and the reality you're experiencing. But don't let it get you down. Take this as a signal that you're finally dreaming big enough.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You get along so well with someone who doesn't have such an easy time being nice to others. You focus on what they do well and try to ignore the rest. It's not so easy, but there's something good in it for you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Ease up on that schedule. If you don't feel completely wonderful about saying "yes" to something, then say "no" instead. Cramming too many activities into your day brings unnecessary stress.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). If you worry about how to make something happen, it never will. Keep your eye on the ball and do what comes naturally. You'll be drawn to the people who can help you figure out your best next step.

Creators.com

SUDOKU

4				8				
					7		9	
			9			2	1	7
	4				2			8
		1		7	4	5		
		9					2	
		5						1
3			8				6	
		6		2		3		

Difficulty: Medium

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's solution

6	7	5	9	2	4	1	8	3
8	3	9	6	1	7	4	2	5
1	2	4	8	5	3	9	6	7
2	4	6	7	8	1	3	5	9
7	1	3	5	9	6	2	4	8
5	9	8	4	3	2	7	1	6
9	8	1	2	7	5	6	3	4
3	6	7	1	4	8	5	9	2
4	5	2	3	6	9	8	7	1

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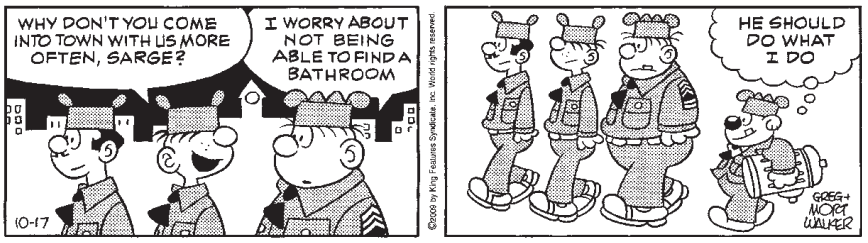
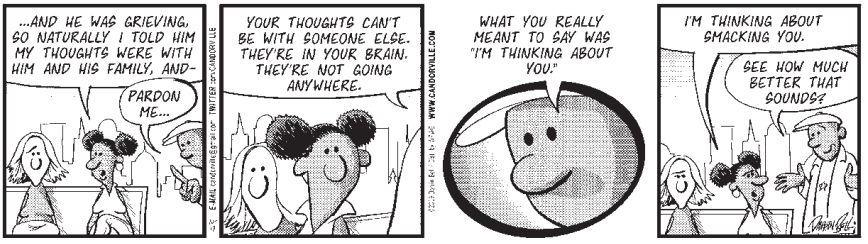
Beetle Bailey



Get Fuzzy

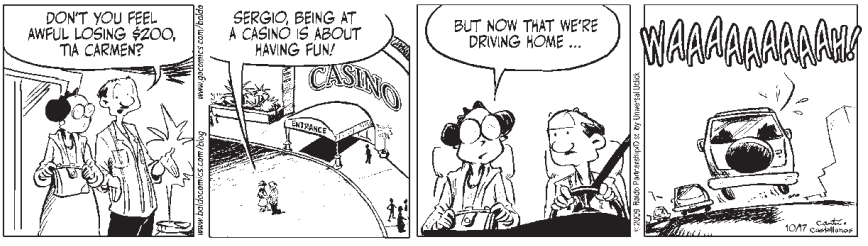
Candorville



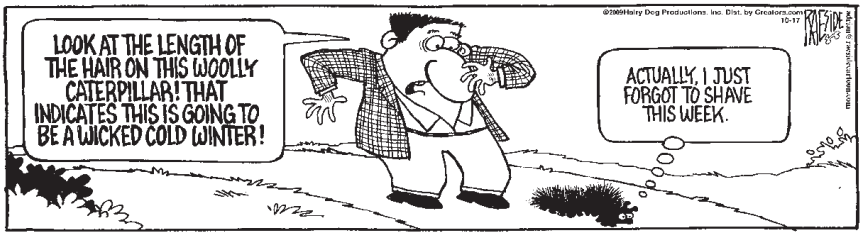
Meaning of Lila

Knight Life

Baldo



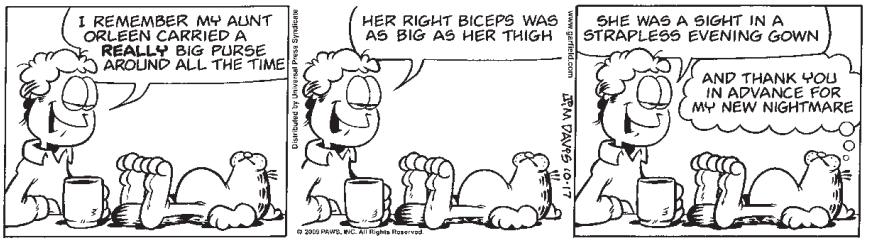
Other Coast



Dilbert

Frazz

Garfield

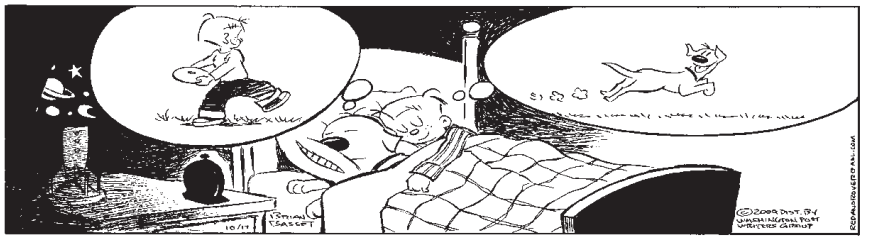


Baby Blues

Jump Start

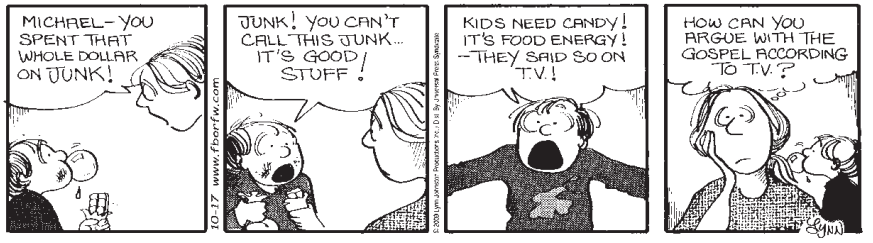
Zits

Red & Rover

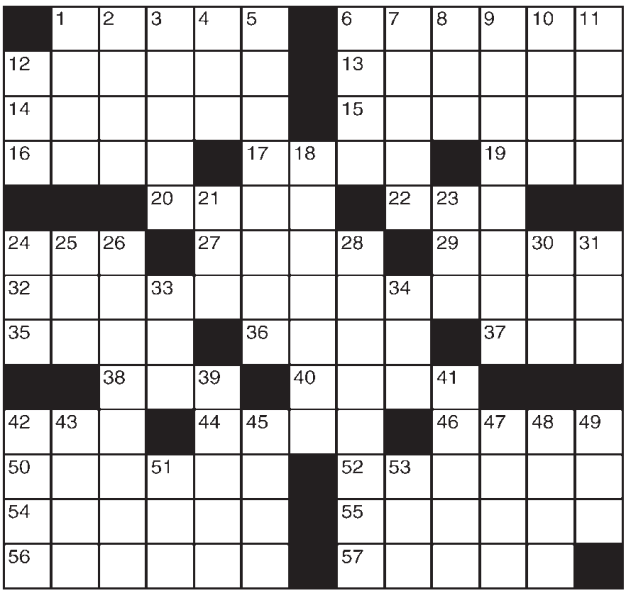


Hagar

Better or Worse



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

1 Reverie
6 With a sharp tone
12 Rice-and-saffron recipe
13 "Some Like It Hot" star
14 Stand for a hot dish
15 Building
16 Hathaway or Heche
17 Jog
19 Journey segment
20 Poet Teasdale
22 Under the weather
24 Fool
27 Office part-timer
29 Bassoon's cousin
32 "Keep Off"
35 Taiwanese dollar
36 Bollywood costume
37 Excessively
38 Crash into
40 Assessment
42 Cornfield noise
44 Makes up one's mind
46 Picture of health?
50 Kampala's land
52 Chant
54 Having depth
55 Fortune-telling decks
56 Gallery stands
57 Related on mom's side

DOWN

1 Fix a sock
2 Check
3 Staff at the Pole
4 Hearty quaff
5 You can sleep on it
6 Magazine articles?
7 Raccoon relative
8 Squid squirt
9 It can be boring
10 Unmatched
11 Safecracker
12 Sch. org.
18 Protective barrier
21 Packed away
23 Part of UCLA
24 Whatever amount
25 Without a — (broke)
26 1977 Best Picture nominee
28 Host's bane
30 Yoko of music
31 Id counterpart
33 Geneticist's abbr.
34 Command to Fido
39 Runway strutter
41 Additional
42 Just adorable
43 Ottoman Empire VIP
45 Cushions
47 Source
48 Initial stake
49 "Certainly"
51 Born
53 A Bobbsey twin

Answer to Previous Puzzle

L	A	M		H	E	L	P		Q	U	I	T
I	D	O		U	V	E	A		U	P	T	O
R	O	O	T	B	E	E	R		E	S	S	E
A	S	T	E	R	N		A	W	L			
			S	I	T		G	A	L	O	O	T
S	A	L	T	S		F	O	G		V	I	A
C	L	A	Y		C	A	N		W	E	L	L
A	T	M		M	I	X		M	A	N	S	E
T	O	B	O	O	T		S	A	G			
			P	O	I		T	R	E	B	L	E
R	U	H	R		Z	O	O	T	S	U	I	T
A	S	I	A		E	N	V	Y		S	E	C
W	A	S	H		N	E	E	R		H	U	H

10-17 CRYPTOQUIP

E F Z H P T P U Z U P T M T Q R Z T F P L A Z Z H X Q R Z H U N T T Z H S H Z E L , I Q X F S J Y N L P J S F P S A T Y N X F S F Q I N B S Y L B Z Z M ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF I WERE OFFERED A BIG ENOUGH TASTE OF SOMETHING, I SUPPOSE THAT WOULD BE AN AMPLE SAMPLE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Q equals I

Mom mulls undoing good deed

Dear Abby: I'm in a bit of a predicament because I lent my maternity clothes to a friend who is due in late December. Her husband lost his job.

I just found out that I am expecting and I am due in late April, and I have no idea how to ask for my clothes back without offending her or telling her I'm pregnant. (My husband and I aren't telling anyone yet.)

I don't think I should wait until I start showing — which could be soon, based on previous pregnancies — because she really needs them and I know I'd be leaving her with very little notice that she needs to go out and buy a whole new wardrobe.

Any help would be greatly appreciated.

— In A Bind in New Jersey

Dear In A Bind: Swear your friend to secrecy and explain that you're pregnant, too.

Then, rather than take all your clothes back, take some — and fill in your maternity wardrobe by buying yourself some new items.

You have the income in your household to do it.

Right now, she's "stuck" — so be a generous friend and don't leave her naked.

Dear Abby

Dear Abby: I have been married 14 years and have four beautiful children. I want to return to nursing school and have for quite a while.

I have been accepted to college, but my husband says he wants me to wait until our kids are out of school.

Our youngest is only in the fourth grade.

I sometimes feel my husband doesn't want me to better myself. We have had a rocky relationship. He cheated on me three years ago and since then, my feelings are no longer the same for him.

Do you think I am being selfish for wanting to go to school?

This is something I would like to do without feeling guilty. Please help.

— Confused in New York

Dear Confused: Listen to your intuition.

If it's telling you you may need to prepare to be independent and provide for yourself and your children, then that's what you need to do, and don't feel guilty about it.

This may have something to do with the fact that your relationship with your husband has changed since you learned he was unfaithful.

If your marriage improves — fabulous. But if it doesn't, you won't be left without a marketable skill — so go for it.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at **http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby**

Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BYMUP

MIRGY

STABEK

EGMAIP

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NEW BIBLE Jumble Books Go To: http://www.tyndale.com/jumble/

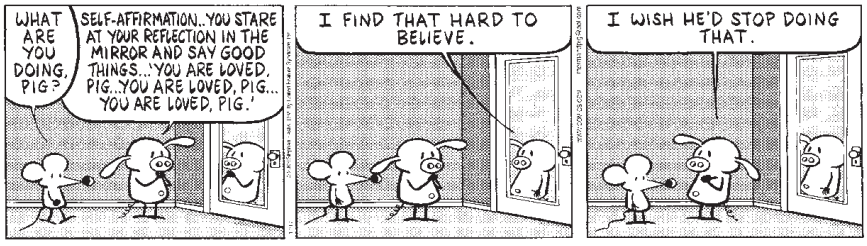
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: A " "

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FRAUD INEPT SLUICE MAKEUP
Answer: The owner's son began working in the warehouse to see how — HE "STACKED" UP

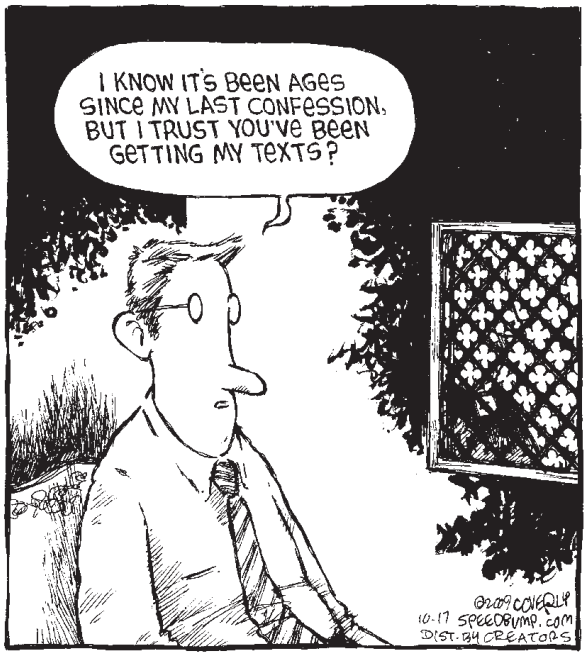
Pearls Before Swine



B.C.

Over The Hedge

Speed Bump



Pardon My Planet

Non Sequitur

Strange Brew

AFN Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on AFN's Web site at www.myafn.net

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2009

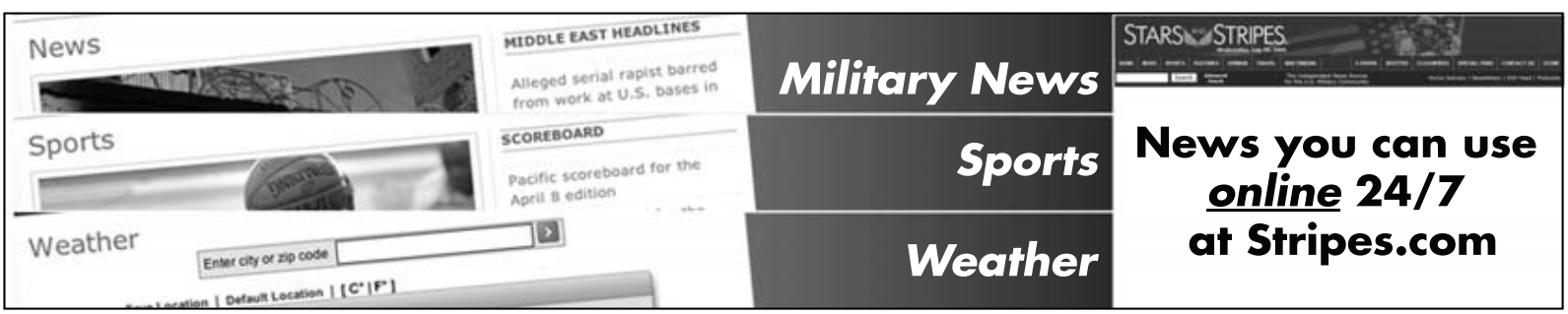
	(AFN-ATLANTIC)	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-PACIFIC)	(PENTAGON)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(XTRA)
15:00	Sesame Street	Funniest Home Videos	(1:00) The Family Man	The Rachel Maddow Show	Days of our Lives	Fit For Duty	How Do I Look?	SportsCenter	(2:00) Sports
15:30		Planet's Funniest Animals	(:20) Movie "Stand by Me" (1986, Comedy-Drama) Wil Wheaton, River Phoenix.			Battleground			
16:00	The View	(3:50) Pokémon		Around the Services	Oprah Winfrey	Army Newswatch	Top Gear	Sports	MTV Hits Playlist
16:30		(:40) Zatch Bell		Tavis Smiley		EXchange on Air			
17:00	Dr. Phil	(:05) Movie "Bee Movie" (2007) Voices of Jerry Seinfeld, Renée Zellweger.	Entertainers	Nightly Business Report	Wheel of Fortune	Around the Services	King of the Hill		X Play
17:30				Nightline	Jeopardy!	Air Force Football	That '70s Show		Punk'd
18:00	The Dr. Oz Show		Hollywood Dailies	The O'Reilly Factor	World News-Gibson	Today's Air Force	Daily Show- Jon Stewart		The Simpsons
18:30		(:40) Hare Force	Entertainment Tonight		Around the Services	All Hands TV	The Colbert Report		Family Guy
19:00	Access Hollywood	Unfabulous	Movie "The Prestige" (2006, Drama) Hugh Jackman, Christian Bale. Two 19th-century magicians engage in a deadly rivalry.	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	Survivor: Samoa	Briefing Encore	Scrubs		World Series of Poker
19:30	The King of Queens	True Jackson, VP				Fit For Duty	New Adv.-Old Christine		
20:00	The Young and the Restless	Sonny With a Chance		Today	CSI: Miami "Target Specific"	Battleground	Chuck "Chuck Versus the First Kill"		
20:30		Aaron Stone "First Strike"				Recon Revisited			
21:00	General Hospital	Wildfire "Family Matters" Charlie helps Todd.		Today	The Jay Leno Show	Around the Services	Brothers & Sisters "Julia"		South Park
21:30			(:25) Movie "The Day After Tomorrow" (2004, Action) Dennis Quaid, Jake Gyllenhaal, Ian Holm.			Pacific Report			South Park
22:00	Days of our Lives	Heroes "Out of Time"		America's Newsroom	Pacific Report	Briefing Encore	Seinfeld	Sports	SportsNation
22:30					The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	All Hands TV	Friends		
23:00	Oprah Winfrey	7th Heaven "Virgin"		Newsroom		Today's Air Force	Daily Show- Jon Stewart		Attack of the Show!
23:30			(:40) MovieThe Score		Late Show-Letterman	Downrange	The Colbert Report		

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009

00:00	Wheel of Fortune	Unfabulous	(11:40) Movie "The Score" (2001) Robert De Niro, Edward Norton. A master thief agrees to work with a volatile partner.	MSNBC Live	Late Show-Letterman	Recon	Late Night With Jimmy Fallon	(10:00) Sports	X Play
00:30	Jeopardy!	True Jackson, VP			The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Fit For Duty			Punk'd
1:00	Headline News	Sonny With a Chance		Happening Now		The Grill Sergeants	Scrubs	Sports	The Simpsons
1:30	ATS/AFN Report	Aaron Stone "First Strike"			Judge Judy	Around the Services	My Name Is Earl (Part 1 of 2)		Family Guy
2:00	Survivor: Samoa	Wildfire "Family Matters" Charlie helps Todd.	Movie "Birdy" (1984, Drama) Matthew Modine, Nicolas Cage. An injured Vietnam vet is obsessed by a desire to fly.	Newsroom	House "Human Error"	Downrange	One Tree Hill "Everything in Its Right Place"		World Series of Poker
2:30						The American Veteran			
3:00	CSI: Miami "Target Specific"	Heroes "Out of Time"		MSNBC Live	Oprah Winfrey	EXchange on Air	Third Watch "The Relay"	Sports	
3:30						State Dept Briefing			
4:00	The Jay Leno Show	7th Heaven "Virgin"	(:10) Movie "The Prestige" (2006, Drama) Hugh Jackman, Christian Bale, Michael Caine. Two 19th-century magicians engage in a deadly rivalry.	Studio B With Shepard Smith	Dr. Phil	Battleground	Seinfeld "The Butter Shave"		South Park
4:30						Around the Services	Friends	College Football Live	South Park
5:00	Headline News	Barney & Friends		The Situation Room With Wolf Blitzer	Good Morning America	This Week in the Pentagon	Namaste Yoga	Sports	SportsNation Hosts Colin Cowherd and Michelle Beadle.
5:30	The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	Oobi				National Guard News	Total Body Sculpt With Gilad	Jim Rome Is Burning	
6:00		Sesame Street		Glenn Beck	Good Morning America	Downrange	Easy Entertaining	Around the Horn	Attack of the Show!
6:30	Late Show With David Letterman		(:35) Movie "The Day After Tomorrow" (2004, Action) Dennis Quaid, Jake Gyllenhaal, Ian Holm. Global warming leads to worldwide natural disasters.			Around the Services	Ace of Cakes	Pardon the Interruption	
7:00		My Friend Rabbit		Around the Services	Dragon	Briefing Encore	Ultimate Goals	SportsCenter	MTV Hits Playlist
7:30	The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Clifford's Puppy Days		NBC Nightly News	Ribert & Robert's	Downrange			
8:00		Charlie & Lola		World News-Gibson	Maya & Miguel	Fit For Duty	Clean House	Sports	Sports
8:30	Judge Judy	Mickey Mouse Clubhouse		CBS Evening News	Danny Phantom	Around the Services			
9:00	House "Human Error"	Sid the Science Kid	(8:50) Movie "Awakenings" (1990, Drama) Robert De Niro. An experimental drug revives victims of sleeping sickness.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	College Football Pittsburgh at Rutgers. (Live)	Recon Revisited	MythBusters		
9:30		Phineas and Ferb				State Dept Briefing			
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	The Buzz on Maggie		Hannity		Fit For Duty	Blue Planet: Seas of Life "Coasts"		
10:30		American Dragon: Jake Long				AFN Europe Report			
11:00	Dr. Phil	My Life as a Teenage Robot	Movie "Alien Nation" (1988, Science Fiction) James Caan, Mandy Patinkin, Terence Stamp.	Anderson Cooper 360		FNG Useful benefits.	Dirty Jobs Automobile dealership project; shearing sheep.		Sports
11:30		Static Shock				Fit For Duty			
12:00	CBS Evening News	Teen Kids News		Special Report With Bret Baier	Entertainment Studios.com	Battleground	Latin Lifestyles		
12:30	ESPNEWS	Grossology	(:45) Movie "The Pelican Brief" (1993, Suspense) Julia Roberts, Denzel Washington. An inquisitive law student becomes the target of assassins.		Criss Angel Mindfreak	Around the Services	Urban Style		
13:00	NBC Nightly News	Out There		Campbell Brown	Ax Men "Ax Men Cometh"	FNG Useful benefits.	The Next Iron Chef "Interpretation"		
13:30	World News-Gibson	The Saddle Club				Army Newswatch			
14:00	Dragon	Faithful Friends		Your World With Neil Cavuto	Access Hollywood	AFN Europe Report	Chopped "Buckwheat Blunders and Twists of Fate"	SportsCenter	Sports
14:30	Ribert & Robert's	Crocodile Hunter's Croc Files				The Grill Sergeants			
15:00	Maya & Miguel	Animal Miracles	Movie "Frenzy" (1972, Suspense) Jon Finch, Barry Foster. A man is wrongly suspected of committing a rash of murders.	The Rachel Maddow Show	Deadliest Catch A major storm system hits.	Fit For Duty	Eureka "Noche de Sueños"	SportsCenter	
15:30	Danny Phantom					Battleground			
16:00	Naruto	Hercules: The Legendary Journeys		Around the Services	Law & Order "Quit Claim"	Ft. Hood on Track	Stargate Atlantis "The Return" (Part 2 of 2)	Sports	MTV Hits Playlist
16:30	Instant Star			Tavis Smiley		This Week in the Pentagon			
17:00	Entertainment Studios.com	SpongeBob SquarePants	Movie "28 Days" (2000) Sandra Bullock, Viggo Mortensen. A problem drinker unwillingly undergoes rehabilitation.	Nightly Business Report	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition "Martirez/Malek Families"	Recon	King of the Hill		Top 20 Countdown
17:30	Criss Angel Mindfreak	The Fairly OddParents		Nightline		Recon Revisited	That '70s Show		
18:00	Ax Men "Ax Men Cometh"	Bindi the Jungle Girl		The O'Reilly Factor	World News-Gibson	Army Newswatch	The King of Queens		Top 20 Countdown
18:30		Adventure Camp			ESPNEWS	This Week in the Pentagon	Everybody Loves Raymond		
19:00	Access Hollywood	Movie "Ratatouille" (2007, Comedy) Voices of Patton Oswalt, Ian Holm, Lou Romano.	Movie "King Kong" (2005, Adventure) Naomi Watts, Jack Black, Adrien Brody. A beauty tames a savage beast.	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Selfish"	The Grill Sergeants	Gary Unmarried		ECW With Todd Grisham & Matt Striker.
19:30						Fit For Duty	The Big Bang Theory		
20:00	Deadliest Catch A major storm system hits.			Today	CSI: NY "My Name Is Mac Taylor"	Battleground	The Unit The team tries to rescue Jonas' old friend.		WWE SmackDown!
20:30						Balad and Beyond			
21:00	Law & Order "Quit Claim"	Dawson's Creek "Alternative Lifestyles"			America's Most Wanted: America Fights Back	All Hands TV	Prison Break "The Mother Lode"		
21:30						Pacific Report			
22:00	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Selfish"	Movie "Bolt" (2008, Comedy) Voices of John Travolta, Miley Cyrus. Animated. A delusional TV dog winds up in New York.		MSNBC Live	Headline News	Army Newswatch	Saturday Night Live	Sports	SportsNation Hosts Colin Cowherd and Michelle Beadle.
22:30			(:25) Movie "Invincible" (2006) Mark Wahlberg. The story of football's Vince Papale.		Futurama (Part 1 of 4)	Today's Air Force			
23:00	CSI: NY "My Name Is Mac Taylor"			Bulls and Bears	'Til Death	Recon			Attack of the Show!
23:30				Cavuto on Business	Back to You	This Week in the Pentagon	Austin City Limits		

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2009

00:00	America's Most Wanted: America Fights Back	The Simpsons "Bart Carny"	(10:25) MovieInvincible (2006)	Forbes on FOX	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Snitch"	FNG Useful benefits.	(11:30) Austin City Limits	(10:00) Sports	Top 20 Countdown
00:30		The Simpsons	(:25) Movie "Air Force One" (1997, Suspense) Harrison Ford, Gary Oldman. Terrorists hijack the president's plane.	Cashin' In		Fit For Duty	Denise Richards		
1:00	Sports	Movie "Ratatouille" (2007, Comedy) Voices of Patton Oswalt, Ian Holm, Lou Romano.		Newsroom	Bones "The Girl in the Gator"	Around the Services	Trading Spouses: Meet Your New Mommy (Part 2 of 2)		Sports
1:30						Around the Services			
2:00				Your Money	House "Sleeping Dogs Lie"	Around the Services	Boston Legal "Selling Sickness"		
2:30			(:35) Movie "Enemy of the State" (1998, Action) Will Smith, Gene Hackman, Jon Voight. Former spy aids man framed in political cover-up.			Around the Services			
3:00		Movie "Bolt" (2008, Comedy) Voices of John Travolta, Miley Cyrus. Animated. A delusional TV dog winds up in New York.		This Week in the Pentagon	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Selfish"	Around the Services	Judging Amy "The Last Word"	Sports	
3:30				Wall Street Journal Report		First Air Force Now			
4:00				Glenn Beck	CSI: NY "My Name Is Mac Taylor"	Battleground	Austin City Limits "Bloc Party; Ghostland Observatory"		Sports
4:30						FNG Useful benefits.			
5:00	Sports	Barney & Friends	(4:55) Movie "King Kong" (2005) Naomi Watts, Jack Black.	Newsroom	America's Most Wanted: America Fights Back	This Week in the Pentagon	Namaste Yoga		
5:30		Oobi				The Benning Report	Total Body Sculpt With Gilad		



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Announcements 040

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Your Hometown Newspaper
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Autos for Sale 141

2001 Mercedes Benz C240 silver nice rims fairly new tires. Power Everything (air, etc) with sunroof 6 CD changer. Car is in Hawaii so any pictures email me at monique.sutton@amedd.army.mil or call Ms. Davis at 808-664-3211/808-347-4164. Will sell for $8000-9000. Thankyou.

Atsugi - 1991 GMC SYCLONE, All Wheel Drive Turbo Charged Truck, very rare, 310HP. Only 2900 ever made, very clean, runs great, 63,000 miles, new rims and tires, rear dics brake conversion, many upgrades. Ready to go back to the USA. Asking $9500, call Tony 08033505521, 264-5246.

Negishi, Japan - Clean, Non Smoking 1995 Nissan Joy, Blue Station Wagon w/ luggage rack. Seats 7. 4 cylinder, automatic trans, cold AC, runs great. Excellent gas mileage. 500 Y-plate equals cheap road tax. Base inspection and JCI good until 2011. Asking $1,000. Will deliver to area bases. Call 090 3915 3575.

Yokohama/Negishi - 1999 Nissan March Bolero - black - 4 cylinder automatic transmission with power locks and windows - A/C works good - JCI good thru March 2010 - 500 Y-plates for cheap road tax - non smoker - $1000 OBO - leaving Japan on the 30th - will deliver to local bases - call 269-6291 or 080-4073-8157 -email: james.r.guest@us.army.mil or jimguest.injapan@yahoo.com

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1991 Nissan Laurel Grey full size sedan with Kenwood stereo system. Replaced 2 tires, windshield wipers Upholstery have some wear and tear but car still runs in great condition. It's only needed a few tune-ups and A/C and heater work great! JCI until March 2010 asking $400 OBO please call 2142616421 or email prodigies18@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - 1992 Honda Legend 4-door luxury sedan dark green color. Working A/C and heater, the car comes with Kenwood MP3/WMA CD stereo and Chrome rims, spacious trunk space. JCI expires mid-October, 2009. Asking $200 OBO MUST SELL ASAP. Will consider any offers. Please call 225-3680, ask for James or 080-6684-2680

Yokota, Japan - 1992 Mitsubishi Pajero 2DR Diesel Looking to sell my 2 door Pajero 2.5L Turbo diesel. Automatic, pretty solid truck, not the prettiest body around, but far from the ugliest mechanically sound. 167000 KM on it 4* body lift, 33* BFGW Mud Terrains No good offer refuse, resellers and exporters, &Junkers welcome. JCI until March 2010 asking $ 3000 OBO Please call 080-3538-0545

Yokota, Japan - 1995 Honda Civic Red, hatchback, fully maintained, very reliable car, power window, A/C, CD 81KM mileage, JCI until September 2010. Asking $1500 OBO Please call 323-338-7534

Announcements 040

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1995 Toyota Aristo 3.0V JCI expire Nov. 2010 2JZ-GTE engine (twin turbo) Low mileage Gray/silver color CD player/Power Windows/Locks/Seats cold A/C All 4 tires bought 6 months ago very dependable! PCS in Nov available NOW! Asking $ 3500 OBO Let's Make a Deal 090-1347-0394

Yokota, Japan - 1996 Nissan Laurel $850OBO 6 cylinder JCI 28 Feb 2011 49,140km Dent in rear passengers side see pictures Excellent a/c Well Maintained no leaks new brake pads AM/FM/Cassette Players clean interior no smoke odor. JCI until Feb 2011 asking $850 BO Please call 267-6149

Yokota, Japan - 1997 Nissan Serena Great family car seats up to 8 people. 500 tag, so cheaper road tax to pay. Nice stereo inside dual a/c and heat. Passengers in back have remote control to adjust their air, Runs great, no problems. Available anytime after Oct. 6 will post photo soon. JCI until Feb. 2010 Asking $900 OBO Please call 623-734-9649

Yokota, Japan - 1997 Nissan Skyline GTS Clean interior. Extremely reliable! Built in radio with CD player; Built in GPS system with remote and TV, Silver exterior, Charcoal interior, automatic transmission Less than 51,000 km. Great gas mileage Tires and breaks in superb condition. Need to sell car before November 1, 2009 JCI until May 2010 asking $2000 please call 080-5688-8024 or email rebekuh@gmail.com

Yokota, Japan - 2000 Toyota Altezza (IS 300 LEXUS) inline 6 -power steering -new tires -new headlights -premium sound system (6 speakers, two 12 inch subs) -clean car inside and out -automatic transmission -great air conditioning and heating -JCI till 2011 asking $3000 obo please call 90-1 273- 9895 or email michael.payne90@hotmail.com

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - 1998 Subaru Legacy 5-speed update White-5-speed-Sunroof-Interior and exterior in good condition-Kenwood head unit-130xxx km-Almost stock. Only extras are exhaust, tien adjustable suspension and a vacuum gauge. Price is negotiable. JCI until Nov. 2009. Asking $2100 OBO You can contact me on my cell 080-4053-9239 or home 8583686861. You can also e-mail me at johnathan.mckee-@yokota.af.mil Thanks.

Yokota, Japan - 2000 Toyota Fun Cargo- very clean A little over 99,000 KM chameleon color stereo docking area and purple/pink steering wheel JCI until August 2011l Asking $3500 Please call 773-634-7782 or email usaf_firefighters_wife@ymail.com

Yokota, Japan - 2 for 1 for a limited time get 2 vehicles for the price of 1. Get a Toyota Crown 94 & 94 Honda Inspire both for only $3300. One for $2200 & one for $1500 savings of $400 for two very reliable and dependable vehicles Ask about split payment plan option. JCI until Jan 10 & July 10 asking $3300 please call 080-3081-9772 or email chynasdad1@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - 93 Toyota Sprinter $900 must sell Blue, 4door Automatic, Great A/C, and Heater. Very Reliable car, I've never had any problems with it. The paint on the roof is cracked, and the body has a few minor dings. JCI until Aug. 2010 if you can get past the cosmetics this car will never let you down. I'm not trying to make a profit I'm just asking what I paid for the car. Asking $900 Please call 901-273-9907 must sell ASAP! Ask for Daniel

Yokota, Japan - 96 Suzuki Wagon R Turbo 2 yr JCI! (Sept 2011). 30mpg and fill it up for less than $20. Yellow plate means cheap road tax. Automatic transmission, 91,000km and runs great, Great condition inside and out. The perfect city car you can park it anywhere. See it on the Lemon Lot for $2,900 obo. Call 720-257-6813 (H) or 080-6566-4443 (C)

Yokota, Japan - '97 Honda StepWagon JCI expire May 2011 Nice family car! Sits 7 people comfortably Power Windows/Locks 5 disc CD player cold A/C Front/Back PCS in Nov ready to make a deal 500 plate (cheap road tax) Runs great-/Very reliable Asking $2000 OBO 090-1347-0394

Yokota, Japan - Be Original . Own a VIP. My lost or gain Fully Loaded. A must to drive, Smooth and classy my lost your gain willing to negotiate. JCI until March 2011 please call 090-6630-9557 or email jryram@gmail.com

Yokota, Japan - Honda Very clean and great condition. Comes with a cover asking $2500 OBO Please email lbumpy@yahoo.com

Autos for Sale 141

Yokota, Japan - Honda Ascot Innova 2 yrs JCI/500 Plate Just passed JCI, reliable, clean exterior/interior, remote start for the winter, aftermarket CD/MP3 player, 2 10's, Kenwood amp. Excellent on gas and it is a 500 plate so cheaper insurance and road tax fees. Asking $2500 OBO Please call 713-490-0823 or email donald_whitejr@yahoo.com

Zama, Japan - 1997 Nissan March, all taxes, inspection and JCI good until Jul 2011, 52,5xx kms, AT, AC, PS, PW, RC, Aqua Green, 1 Ltr Eng, very good condition. Available 11 Nov 09, for sale $900.00 or possible trade plus cash for your junker. 080-3459-7363 / 209-201-0361.

Motorcycles 164

Atsugi - 2007 Harley Davidson FLSTF "Fatboy" Includes passenger seat, removable backrest (highly desirable by your passenger), saddlebag, and all factory manuals! Other extras are available. If you want to buy a bargain priced HD to ride while you are here in Japan, this is an increasingly rare opportunity. I'm asking $13,000.00. This bike is priced to sell. I'm only selling it because I'm PCS'ing back home and I don't need two Harleys. I have a 2006 Deluxe in storage back home. 080-5680-3650. Please leave a message if unanswered.

Atsugi - For Sale 1993 Harley Davidson Dyna Wide Glide bike has 48273 miles and about 2000 miles on big bore kit, has Mikuni racing carb, drag pipes, custom paint, frame has been chopped and raked out, and many more additions. Asking $6500.00 obo contact Ivan #08058695453.

Atsugi - For Sale 2008 Harley Davidson Dyna Street Bob bike is all stock also comes with screamin eagle mufflers, only has 1000 miles on bike runs great and strong asking $13,000.00 obo contact Ivan #08058695453 or April #08058695462.

Baby Items 200

Atsugi - Selling Graco Cherry Blossom Travel System and Swing, both were purchased in May of 2008 and were purchased new. We have been the only owners and both have received little use. We live in Atsugi and if you interested you will need to come pick them both up. Asking $200 for both OBO. 090-1268-7244

Baby Items 200

Yokota, Japan - Fisher Price Ocean Wonders Aquarium Swing In great condition. Music, soft lights and tranquil aquatic sounds also help soothe baby There's an aquarium water globe with changing lights and swimming characters, and a mobile with four plush aquatic friends to keep baby company Choose from six speeds, eight songs and three ocean sounds Fisher Price Baby gear Specialty Swing Age range birth to 2 years, Retails for $119.00 Asking $40 Please call 813-200-9352 or email topekarogers@hotmail.com

Bicycles 220

Yokohama/Negishi - Mongoose Exile bicycle, 27 speed, 26" tires, yellow in color. Bought in June this year. Ridden to ride to work and on weekend area rides. Have owners manual, blue Schwinn bicycle helmet, three key cable lock, light, bell, and extra wide seat installed. Have original seat as well.. Asking $100 OBO. Leaving Japan on 30th - call 269-6291 or 080-4073-8157. email: james.r.guest@us.army.mil.or jimguest.injapan@yahoo.com

Cellular Phones 280

Yokohama/Negishi - two (2) Softbank model 812SH cell phones. metallic blue color - one has scratched. One in use and the other is inactive. Only need to change SIM card to make them work. Complete with box, manual, and charger. Paid $156 each - will sell both for $100 OBO. Leaving Japan on 30th - call 269-6291 or 080-4073-8157. email: james.r.guest@us.army.mil.or jimguest.injapan@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Cell Phone Black Softbank cell phone 830SH. Only 4 months old. Paid $183 asking $120 still in box asking $120 Please call 080-3548-4277 or email kimhayes0509@gmail.com

Clothing 320

Yokota, Japan - Brand New Air Force Ball dress size 10 strapless sweetheart cut with rhinestone decor. Red in color Size 10 Just got on Monday but it doesn't fit. Asking $180 (My loss your gain!) Paid $213.00 plus shipping to get it here. Please call 971-244-0286

Yokota, Japan - New ABU Boots Belleville ABU boots (AF Style 650, Size 9R). Never worn, NIB Retail for $100+, asking $50 Please call Jonathan (509) 343-0824

Club/Parties 340

YOKOHAMA WORLD FRIENDS HALLOWEEN INTERNATIONAL PARTY, Oct 17, Sat, 6:30-9pm, Restaurant Forest Avenue. Biggest International Party in Yokohama. Meet 150 people. 20 kinds of free cocktails. Free Snacks. 3000 Yen http://www.worldfriends-party.com Call 080-2001-0512 party@goover.co.jp

Computers 360

Yokota, Japan - Belkin wireless router (g) I have a belkin wireless g router for sale $25.00 paid $40.00 used for one month. Call me or email 702-946-5981, 080-3595-6125, j_hamblin@live.com

Yokota, Japan - NEW Med Bridge 1.3 HDMI cable High speed HDMI cable. 25 feet long, gold plated connectors, supports up to 1080p. Great quality cable - brand new - never used it because it's not long enough. The cheapest HDMI cable at the exchange is $35 and not nearly as long as 25 feet. Asking $40 please call Darrin 6173913655

Yokota, Japan - TASCAM US-122 USB Audio/MIDI interface 2 XLR-based, phantom-powered mic. inputs. Place hardware devices (compressors, etc.) into the recording signal chain. Two line-level inputs on balanced 1/4 in. TRS jacks dedicated control for adjustable zero-latency direct monitoring, 16 channels of MIDI I/O for use with synthesizers and other sound generating equipment. For compatibility with a wide variety of computer systems, Asking $100 OBO Please call 090-4389-3536

Found 490

Sagamihara - Found Gameboy DS items at the SHA commissary parking lot on Oct 11th. Please email at mommax4boys@yahoo.com to send description of items

Furniture 510

Yokota, Japan - Great Wardrobe! Large pine-colored wardrobe with sliding doors covered with a full-length mirror on one door available to anyone who wants it (photo is only an example - ours is wider with one mirror). Approx 6 feet tall, 8-9 feet wide, 2-3 feet deep Holds A LOT of clothes, both hanging and folded, stacked on the large top shelf. Great piece, we just have no room since we had a baby! FREE! Please email soccerpoet@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - IKEA Entertainment Center/TV Stand Excellent Condition - 46" Wide / 19.5" Deep / 20" High- Locking Glass Panel with Key- Adjustable Shelves Please call 240-241-5776 or email jumholbrook@hotmail.com

Furniture 510

Yokota, Japan - Ikea Couch Bed Got this bed a month ago but it looked smaller in the store. No room in my small Japanese apartment must sell for smaller couch bed. The color is brown and the cover is washable. The size is around a queen when it is `own. Cost $450 new will take $300 OBO Can Deliver! Call 080.6673.1820

Yokota, Japan - Lots of furniture for sale, just moved here-brought way too much. Need to sell. DR set, FS bed, butcher's rack, Total Gym, book shelves, very large computer desk, and much more! Will be available October 6 in New American Village, prices varies Please call 7042492941 or email theresa_rob@hotmail.com

Furniture/Appliances 511

Yokohama/Negishi - Shark Retractor clean air hand vac with retractable cord. Still in box - never used. Will accept reasonable offer. Leaving Japan on the 30th - call 269-6291 or 080-4073-8157. Email :james.r.guest@us.army.milor jimguest.injapan@yahoo.com

Household Items 560

Yokota, Japan - Large Japanese Kanji Frame. They are ilchigo-Ichie only once in the life) this is good for display on while wall... Size: 4' x 1.5'. Please e-mail me at yokotajapan73@hotmail.com or call me at 090-9825-3805 (Soft Bank User can text me with the number). Asking $35 OBO Please call 090-9825-3805 or email yokotajapan73@hotmail.com

Yokota - West Bend 6-Quart Slow Cooker An ideal size for five to six people, this 6-quart-capacity programmable appliance cooks up everything from soups and casseroles to pot roasts and curries, making dinnertime easier than ever. Timed cook option from 4 to 12 hours; auto shut-off after 20 hours. High, low, and keep-warm temperature settings; stay-cool side handles. Crock doubles as a serving dish; dishwasher-safe crock and glass cover. Asking $20 Please call 080-4151-1869 or email scott_jason_d@i.softbank.jp

Home Electronics 570

Yokohama/Negishi - Coby 20 watts CD stereo system. Still in box - never used. Will accept reasonable offer. Leaving Japan on the 30th - call 269-6291 or 080-4073-8157. email: james.r.guest@us.army.mil.or jimguest.injapan@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - gray glass TV stand 100CM long 50 CM wide 50 CM high, Asking $50 Please call (323)338-7553

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Home Electronics 570

Yokota, Japan - Kenwood 5.1 Stereo Package NV-701 Nice Kenwood 5.1 Surround Sound Set Up. Sounds Great and Looks Clean.3-Disc CD and Cassette Player. Very nice and sturdy construction, asking $75 OBO Please call 1-425-999-8508 or email mrvak@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Madden NFL 10 XBOX 360 game has been played once. Asking $40 Please call 080-4196-3603 or email kingjduro36@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - MXL 990 Condenser Microphone with Shock Mount Condenser Microphone with Shock Mount has a silky, sweet high end while retaining tight, solid low and midrange reproduction. The 3/4" gold-sputtered diaphragm creates a professional sound suited for digital and analog recording. Attractive vintage body style with champagne finish. 30Hz-20 kHz frequency response 130dB maximum SPL Includes custom shock mount, mic. Stand adapter, and case. Requires phantom power asking $60 OBO Please call 090-4389-3536

Yokota, Japan - PS3 (Needs help) PS3 for some reason the disk only reads sometimes. If you know how to fix it will be a steal. One year old hardly used everything else in the system works. Just intermittent on disks asking $100 OBO please email friskofan01@hotmail.com

Yokota, Japan - XLR male-female cable (10 meters) like new, no wear. For connecting musical instruments, amps, etc.. Asking $30 Please call 090-4389-3536

Home Electronics 570

Yokota, Japan - X-Box w/games Original in good working condition. All parts in box plus additional controller. Games included in price include: Counter Strike Tony Hawk's Underground Medal of Honor Frontline Star Wars/Tetris Combo T.C. Splinter Cell: Pandora Tomorrow Prince of Persia: Sands of Time Star Wars: KOTOR Star Wars: Battlefront 2 Hit man 2 Madden NFL 06 All games work and system operates great. Asking price is $50 OBO for all. Please email elektrikboogaloo@yahoo.com

Jobs Offered 630

Sagami Home English School is looking for Native English speakers, to teach English in their homes. Weekdays, weekends, and evenings are available. Please contact Mr. Sato at 080 1243-4802 or e-mail shes @guitar.ocn.ne.jp

Yokota - BABYSITTER NEEDED Wed - Fri. 2-3 hr block of time on two to three days between 8am - 1pm. Flexible schedule. Competitive pay. Two children: 2 years and 10 months. Call 904-229-0498 if interested.

Jobs Offered 630

U.S. Army Medical Department Activity, Japan
Camp Zama, Japan

Physical Therapist, Intermittent (240 hours)

- Provides physical therapy service in the areas of physical disabilities and neuromuscular dysfunctions in patients ranging from adolescence to the very elderly.

Qualifications:

- A Bachelor's degree or higher in Physical Therapy from an accredited school in the United States.
- Two years clinical physical therapy experience with training in manual therapy skills is preferred.
- Must have a permanent, full, and unrestricted license to practice physical therapy in a State, District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a territory of the United States.

Other Requirements:

- This position requires a signed statement due to requirements of seasonal influenza vaccination as a condition of employment' Selection of a non-current employee will be withdrawn due to refusal of seasonal influenza vaccination. If refusal is due to medical and/or religious reasons, a statement from a creditable source is required.

This is a contract position open to SOFA status applicants. Resumes may be sent to yoshiyasu.Aoki@us.army.mil.

ALL applicants shall register in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) which can be found at www.ccr.gov. Individuals not CCR registered are not eligible for a Government contract.

Lost 670

Yokota, Japan - Lost Blue Fender Grill from my Car A small Blue piece fell off my car maybe you seen it and picked it up somewhere? I will enclose a picture to show you what it looks like. It's from a Mazda RX7. Please call me if you have seen it, or if you can help me get a new one. Please call Sheridan Turner 080-3588-0119

Musical Instruments 740

Yokota, Japan - Fender DG-20CE Acoustic/Electric Guitar with Locke Fender Acoustic/-Electric Guitar with Matching Locking Hard Shell Case in Excellent Condition. Comes with 5 Picks, Seiko ST-727 Guitar/Bass Electronic Tuner, And a Chord Clamp Asking $300 OBO Please calls 1-425-999-8508 or email mrvak@yahoo.com

Musical Instruments 740

Yokota, Japan - CASIO CTK-481 Keyboard This keyboard still works perfectly, great for any aspiring musician! Even a used one will cost you $80 on Amazon. this is a real deal for just $50 OBO! Link: or email http://www.amazon.com/Casio-CTK-481-Keyboard-Adapter-Books/dp/B00006HMQ3 Please call 080-4151-1869 or email scott_jason_d@i.softbank.jp

Yokota, Japan - For sale Like new Pearl Drum set, rarely used. Comes with 2 symbols, high hats, bass pedal, and 4 mute pads for snare, toms and floor tom Asking $ 550 Please call Judah 0425-69-6386

Outdoor Living 775

Yokota, Japan - garden (west housing) home fence and awning for 2 story garden house. Professionally built July 2009 Paid $2500; great condition PCS in November ready to sell today. Asking $2000 obo still in the ground, you must come and get it. Call or e-mail me for address. 090-1347-0394

Yokota, Japan - Weber charcoal grill great grill in excellent condition, I changed to gas asking $20 Please Call (323)338-7553 or email mdfisherman@hotmail.com

Pets 820

Negishi, Japan - 1 year old pure breed male yellow Labrador Retriever free to a good home, very sweet and kind and has tons of energy, crate trained, house broken and fixed. Will provide pedigree papers (in Japanese) crate and metal training collar. Contact 09085697764/65 or email: xxone12xx@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - German shepherd - Leonia's is a 1 yr old pure bread German shepherd. He's crate trained and house broken. He's a house dog but needs a yard to run around in which I don't have/can't provide him. He loves to take walks and is very loving, a good listener, and will take all the attention he can get. He has been neutered. I have his crate, toys, food, treats, etc that will come with him. Asking $250 Please call 080-3588-1641

Yokota, Japan - Maltese Puppy with Pedigree 9mos old male Maltese needs new family, I am leaving country and can't take him. He is full of energy and fun loves to play and is potty trained, he has toys and all his other stuff contact Dave for more info 090-721-01052

Yokota, Japan - Saltwater Fish - free to a good home! We are leaving Japan in December and need to find a good home for our saltwater fish - 1 small clown fish, 2 small chromes, 1 yellow tail damsel and 2 hermit crabs. They have all lived happily together for 1.5 years, so we would like to keep them together if possible! Please contact 080-3421-0272

Pet Accessories 822

Yokota, Japan - Live rock for Saltwater Aquarium for sale We are due to leave Japan in December and are selling the live rock from our aquarium. We have an estimated 30-40lbs of it, all bought here in Japan at a total cost of over $400. Live rock here is very expensive! There are 7 very good quality large live rocks (lots of purple algae), 4 semi-live (we seeded them ourselves and they are covered in life!), plus smaller live and semi-live rocks. Asking $200 OBO Please call 080-3421-0272

Photography 830

Yokota, Japan - Digital Camera Panasonic DMC-LZ2 6.0 MP with 6X Optical Zoom - 2" LCD Display - SD Card Compatible - Requires 2 AA Batteries - Comes with USB Connect Cable and Icon Carrying Case Asking $40 Please call 1-425-999-8508 or email mrvak@yahoo.com

Real Estate 850

Moving to Ft Bragg/Pope AFB NC? 4BR/3BA "Gates Four" home in Jack Britt School District, gated golf community, sorry no pets, avail 1 Jan 10, $1600/mo. http://ourNChome.tripod.com.

Sporting Goods 980

Yokota, Japan - Elliptical Like new elliptical. Only used a few times I don't want to throw it away. Asking $75 Please call 1-901-273-9909 or email cjhebayemail@aol.com

Sporting Goods 980

Yokota, Japan - Brand New Nike Magnigrip CL Vapor Trail Glove Tired of trying to catch those sketchy passes in the rain and just can't stand it? Want interceptions? Want your pass routes to be worth it? Well, I'm selling a pair of Nike football gloves, that will increase your chances of catching or receiving a pass, I wore them only once to practice and loved them, but due to me having to end my football season early, I was unable to enjoy them more. So, you should take this opportunity and buy some awesome gloves. Asking $17 Please call 1-216-619-8570 or email sk8er4l1fe9179@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Oakley Football Visor For Sale I'm Selling a beautiful and only worn once, Oakley Football helmet Visor. It is good for field regulations and rules. It has a dark tint, but still clears enough for the opponent to see your rage. =p Retail price is at $49.99 willing to sell for $27 please call 1-216-619-8570 or email sk8er4l1fe9179@yahoo.com

Yokota, Japan - Pro-Form Elliptical Trainer Excellent condition, built in CD player, grip pulse sensor and more. Asking $450 Please call Theresa 425-274-4350

Yokota, Japan - Pro-Form Elliptical Trainer Excellent condition, built in CD player, grip pulse sensor and more. Asking $450 Please call Theresa 425-274-4350

Yokota, Japan - Vans Tara Dakides Snowboard Boots (Women's size 9 US - 6.5 UK - 40 EUR - 26 CM) In Excellent/-Like New Condition Asking $60 Please call 1-425-999-8508 or email mrvak@yahoo.com

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CORNER LOT - Wonderful four bedroom
Open plan - hardwoods in dining room - patio -18 mins to Fort Jackson - Richland 2 schools - Blythewood HS.
$145,000 MLS245489.

FORT JACKSON approx 15 mins away
4BRs - Master w/ garden tub-separate shower. Formals - FamRm - Privacy Fence - Richland 2 Schls-Bridge Creek Elementary.
$135,900 MLS245469.

New construction. Four bedrooms, 2100 SF
formal dining, eat-in-kit, screened porch. $5000 closing cost. 20 min to Fort Jackson. Richland 2 Sch Dist. $163,900.
Other 4 br new homes from $152,000.

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$420,000 MLS 248285.

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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Friday

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.-College football: Cincinnati at South Florida (dld).
AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.-MLB playoffs: NL championship series, Philadelphia at L.A. Dodgers, Game 1 (dld).

Saturday

AFN-Sports, 5:30 a.m.-MLB playoffs: NL championship series, Philadelphia at L.A. Dodgers, Game 2.
AFN-Sports, 8:30 a.m.-MLB playoffs: AL championship series, L.A. Angels at N.Y. Yankees, Game 1 (joined in progress).
AFN-Pacific, 9 a.m.-College football: Pittsburgh at Rutgers.
AFN-Xtra, 9 a.m.-Auto racing: NASCAR Nationwide Dollar General 300.
AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.-College football: Pittsburgh at Rutgers (dld).
AFN-Sports, 8 p.m.-MLB playoffs: AL championship series, L.A. Angels at N.Y. Yankees, Game 1 (dld).

Sunday

AFN-Atlantic, 1 a.m.-College football: Iowa at Wisconsin.
AFN-Sports, 1 a.m.-College football: Oklahoma vs. Texas at Dallas.
AFN-Xtra, 1 a.m.-College football: Ohio State at Purdue.
AFN-Atlantic, 4:30 a.m.-College football: Arkansas at Florida.
AFN-Sports, 4:30 a.m.-College football: Southern California at Notre Dame.
AFN-Xtra, 4:30 a.m.-College football: Texas Tech at Nebraska.
AFN-Xtra, 8:25 a.m.-Auto racing: NASCAR Bank of America 500.
AFN-Sports, 8:30 a.m.-MLB playoffs: AL championship series, L.A. Angels at N.Y. Yankees, Game 2.
AFN-Atlantic, 8:45 a.m.-College football: South Carolina at Alabama.
AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.-College football: Virginia Tech at Georgia Tech (dld).
AFN-Xtra, 4 p.m.-MLS: Chicago at New England (dld).
AFN-Xtra, 6 p.m.-College football: Missouri at Oklahoma State (dld).
AFN-Sports, 8 p.m.-MLB playoffs: AL championship series, L.A. Angels at N.Y. Yankees, Game 2 (dld).
AFN-Xtra, 9 p.m.-College football: Minnesota at Penn State (dld).

All times are Japan and Korea Standard; (dld) indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

High school

Okinawa

Cross country
Wednesday's results
At Okinawa Christian School Int'l
3.1-mile course
Boys team scores
1, Kadena, 27; 2, Kubasaki, 46; 3, Zion Christian Academy, 77; 4, Okinawa Christian International, 130.
Boys individual results
1, Tomas Sanchez, Kadena, 18 minutes, 17 seconds
2, Mashu Wakita, Zion, 18:27
3, Jacob Bishop, Kadena, 18:49
4, Jordon Roberts, Kubasaki, 19:00
5, Cristian Rodroguez, Kubasaki, 19:04
6, Zach Pelky, Kadena, 19:19
7, Akira Shavers, Zion, 19:36
8, Brad Davies, Kadena, 19:37
9, Andrew Kilkenny, Kadena, 19:37
10, Joshua Morris, OCSI, 19:42
Girls team scores
1, Kadena, 27; 2, Kubasaki, 41; 3, Zion Christian Academy, 73; 4, Okinawa Christian International, incomplete team.
Girls individual results
1, Jessica Powell, Kubasaki, 21 minutes, 23 seconds
2, Chasity Cordova, Kadena, 21:29
3, Andrea Grade, Kadena, 22:23
4, Teauna Baker, Zion, 23:10
5, Mia Cordova, Kadena, 23:33
6, Rachael Hensen, Kubasaki, 23:49
7, Sarah Wilson, Zion, 23:52
8, India Adams, Kadena, 23:56
9, Yukino Nagai, Kadena, 24:01
10, Tayleur Hodges, Kubasaki, 24:15

Japan

Tennis
Wednesday's results
At Yokota Air Base
Boys
St. Mary's International 5, Yokota 0
Singles
Stephan Byland def. Great Hord 6-2, 6-0
Jack Cavanagh def. C.J. Wright 6-0, 6-0
Chae Young Moon def. Antony Phillips 6-0, 6-2
Doubles
Saman Herath and Ken Tsusana def. Noah Hering and E.J. Bagtas 6-0, 6-0
Dongkyun Woo and Takashi Kanaumi def. German Guevara and Derek Mobley 6-0, 6-0
Girls
Yokota 4, Seisen International 0, 1 tie
Singles
Erika Youngdahl def. Kana Saechout 6-2, 6-1
Olivia Hering def. Risako Takasuki 6-1, 7-6 (tiebreaker score not available)
Erika Ettl def. Naomi Minato 6-1, 6-1
Doubles
Misa Brophy and Anju Yamanaka def. Satri Aikawa and Hanako Zhang 6-1, suspended, rain.
Emma Hagen and Emily Beemsterboer, Yokota, and Serina So and Grace Sakamoto, Seisen, 5-5, suspended, rain.

Deals

Wednesday's transactions

BASEBALL
American League
NEW YORK YANKEES—Signed 1B Trent Lockwood.
TEXAS RANGERS—Announced hitting coach Rudy Jaramillo will not return next season.
National League
ATLANTA BRAVES—Named Tony DeMacio director of scouting.
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS—Announced hitting coach Carney Lansford will not return next season.
BASKETBALL
NBA
NBA—Fined Charlotte coach Larry Brown $35,000 for verbally abusing game officials and failing to leave the court in a timely manner and $25,000 for publicly criticizing the referees in a game on Oct. 12 and fined the Charlotte organization $60,000 after Brown's ejection. Fined Memphis coach Lionel Hollins $25,000 for critizing officials after a game on Oct. 12.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
BUFFALO BILLS—Placed LB Kawika Mitchell and LB Marcus Buggs on injured reserve. Signed LB Chris Draft and S Todd Johnson. Signed LB Anthony Waters to the practice squad. Released LB Marcus Freeman from the practice squad.
CAROLINA PANTHERS—Signed DT Terrance Taylor to the practice squad.
DALLAS COWBOYS—Signed KR Allen Rossum.
DETROIT LIONS—Signed DB Demarcus Faggins and WR John Standeford. Waived DT Chuck Darby. Signed DE Robert Henderson to the practice squad. Waived DB Deandre Wright from the practice squad.
INDIANAPOLIS COLTS—Signed PK Matt Stover. Waived DT Ed Johnson.
MIAMI DOLPHINS—Signed RB Kory Sheets off San Francisco's practice squad. Placed RB Patrick Cobbs on injured reserve.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS—Released QB John David Booty from the practice squad. Signed OT Clint Oldenburg to the practice squad.
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Signed LB Junior Seau. Released DL Terdell Sands.
OAKLAND RAIDERS—Re-signed OL Langston Walker. Placed FB Oren O'Neal on the waived-injured list.
PITTSBURGH STEELERS—Placed DE Aaron Smith on injured reserve. Re-signed DT Ra'Shon Harris.
SAN DIEGO CHARGERS—Released S Clinton Hart. Signed DT Ian Scott.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Signed P Glenn Pakulak to the practice squad.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS—Recalled RW Jack Skille from Rockford (AHL).
PHOENIX COYOTES—Assigned F Mikkel Boedker to San Antonio (AHL).
VANCOUVER CANUCKS—Recalled F Michael Grabner from Manitoba (AHL).
SOCCER
Women's Professional Soccer
SKY BLUE FC—Named Anne Parnila assistant coach and Rick Stainton goaltending coach.
TENNIS
ITF—Banned Czech player Ivo Minar eight months after testing positive for a banned substance after a Davis Cup match in July.
COLLEGE
BINGHAMTON—Placed men's basketball coach Kevin Broadus on an indefinite paid leave of absence. Named assistant coach Mark Macon interim coach.

College football

Wednesday's AP Top 25 summary
No. 5 Boise State 28, Tulsa 21

Boise St.	8	10	10	0—28
Tulsa	14	0	0	7—21

First Quarter
Tlsa—D.Johnson 53 pass from Whitmore (Fitzpatrick kick), 8:25.
Boi—Gallarda 8 pass from Ke.Moore (Efaw pass from Pettis), 4:00.
Tlsa—T.Johnson 15 pass from Kinne (Fitzpatrick kick), :16.
Second Quarter
Boi—Pettis 17 pass from Ke.Moore (Brotzman kick), 11:03.
Boi—FG Brotzman 27, :36.
Third Quarter
Boi—Gallarda 2 pass from Ke.Moore (Brotzman kick), 9:44.
Boi—FG Brotzman 18, 2:54.
Fourth Quarter
Tlsa—Shelley 55 pass from Kinne (Fitzpatrick kick), 9:29.
A—30,000.

	Boi	Tlsa
First downs	25	12
Rushes-yards	44-193	26-88
Passing	187	207
Comp-Att-Int	22-32-0	15-28-0
Return Yards	17	(-3)
Punts-Avg.	6-40.0	8-42.5
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	2-0
Penalties-Yards	3-24	7-65
Time of Possession	35:07	24:53

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing—Boise St., Martin 23-112, Avery 16-73, Young 1-6, Ke.Moore 3-3, Team 1-(minus 1). **Tulsa**, D.Johnson 4-41, Williams 4-21, Kinne 14-15, Opeseyitan 2-8, Clay 2-3.
Passing—Boise St., Ke.Moore 22-32-0-187. **Tulsa**, Kinne 14-27-0-154, Whitmore 1-1-0-53.
Receiving—Boise St., Young 5-31, Pettis 4-63, Shoemaker 4-27, Efaw 3-38, Gallarda 3-15, Brockel 1-10, Burroughs 1-3, Martin 1-0. **Tulsa**, D.Johnson 4-59, Shelley 3-99, Clay 3-12, Williams 2-17, Whitmore 2-5, T.Johnson 1-15.

Tennis

Shanghai Masters

Thursday
At Qizhong Tennis Center
Shanghai, China
Purse: $5.25 million (Masters 1000)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Third Round
Nikolay Davydenko (6), Russia, def. Fernando Gonzalez (10), Chile, 6-3, 7-5.
Radek Stepanek (13), Czech Republic, def. Stanislas Wawrinka, Switzerland, 3-6, 7-6 (5), 4-2 retired.
Robin Soderling (9), Sweden, def. Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (5), France, 6-3, 6-3.
Ivan Ljubicic, Croatia, def. Gael Monfils, France (11), 6-2, 3-0 retired.
Feliciano Lopez, Spain, def. Jurgen Melzer, Austria, 5-7, 7-6 (3), 6-1.
Novak Djokovic (2), Serbia, def. Rainer Schuettler, Germany, 6-4, 6-2.
Gilles Simon (8), France, def. Tomas Berdych, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4.
Rafael Nadal (1), Spain, def. Tommy Robredo (14), Spain, 6-1, 6-4.

Generali Ladies

Wednesday
At Intersport Arena Linz
Linz, Austria
Purse: $220,000 (Intl.)
Surface: Hard-Indoor
Singles
First Round
Alize Cornet, France, def. Kristina Barrois, Germany, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3.
Agnieszka Radwanska (2), Poland, def. Monica Niculescu, Romania, 6-4, 6-2.
Alexandra Dulgheru, Romania, def. Sybille Bammer, Austria, 6-3, 6-1.
Yanina Wickmayer (3), Belgium, def. Timea Bacsinszky, Switzerland, 7-6 (6), 6-4.
Second Round
Carla Suarez Navarro (4), Spain, def. Olga Govortsova, Belarus, 6-3, 6-4.
Petra Kvitova, Czech Republic, def. Iveta Benesova (5), Czech Republic, 6-4, 7-5.
Sara Errani (8), Italy, def. Tatjana Malek, Germany, 6-3, 6-0.

HP Open

Thursday
At Utsbo Tennis Center
Osaka, Japan
Purse: $220,000 (Intl.)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Second Round
Jill Craybas, United States, def. Mathilde Johansson, France, 2-6, 6-2, 6-0.
Aleksandra Wozniak (6), Canada, def. Chang Kai-chen, Taiwan, 7-5, 7-6 (2).
Caroline Wozniacki (1), Denmark, def. Katie O'Brien, Britain, 6-0, 6-1.
Samantha Stosur (3), Australia, def. Akiko Morigami, Japan, 6-1, 6-2.

Pro football

NFL injury report

NEW YORK — The National Football League injury report, as provided by the league (OUT - Definitely will not play; DNP - Did not practice; LIMITED - Limited participation in practice; FULL - Full participation in practice):

SUNDAY

HOUSTON TEXANS at CINCINNATI BENGALS — TEXANS: DNP: TE James Casey (illness), S Nick Ferguson (knee). LIMITED: LB Brian Cushing (foot), LB DeMeco Ryans (shoulder), DE Mario Williams (shoulder). FULL: QB Rex Grossman (illness). **BENGALS:** DNP: RB Brian Leonard (groin), DE Frostee Rucker (ankle), WR Jerome Simpson (illness). LIMITED: S Kyries Hebert (hip). FULL: LB Rashad Jeanty (finger), DT Tank Johnson (foot), S Chinedum Ndukwe (hamstring), QB Carson Palmer (left thumb).

DETROIT LIONS at GREEN BAY PACKERS — LIONS: DNP: RB Jerome Felton (shoulder), TE Casey FitzSimmons (thigh), DT Sammie Hill (ankle), DE Jason Hunter (ankle), WR Calvin Johnson (thigh), RB Maurice Morris (hip), S Ko Simpson (hamstring), DE Dewayne White (hamstring). LIMITED: LB Jordon Dizon (foot), DT Grady Jackson (knee), LB Ernie Sims (shoulder), QB Matthew Stafford (knee). FULL: T Gosder Cherilus (shoulder), TE Brandon Pettigrew (hamstring). **PACKERS:** OUT: RB Korey Hall (calf). DNP: LB Brady Poppinga (illness), DE Jarius Wynn (knee). LIMITED: T Chad Clifton (ankle), DE Cullen Jenkins (ankle), DT Ryan Pickett (hip), T Mark Tauscher (knee). FULL: S Atari Bigby (knee), G Daryn Colledge (knee), RB Brandon Jackson (ankle), LB Jeremy Thompson (knee).

ST. LOUIS RAMS at JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS — RAMS: DNP: WR Ruvell Martin (hamstring). LIMITED: QB Kyle Boller (concussion), S James Butler (knee), CB Justin King (knee), S Anthony Smith (Achilles). **JAGUARS:** OUT: DE Greg Peterson (knee). DNP: CB Rashean Mathis (hip), LB Adam Seward (groin). LIMITED: S Sean Considine (groin), LB Justin Durant (hip), DT John Henderson (shoulder), CB Scott Starks (hip), T Maurice Williams (knee). FULL: WR Mike Thomas (ribs).

BALTIMORE RAVENS at MINNESOTA VIKINGS — RAVENS: DNP: T Jared Gaither (neck), LB Jarret Johnson (shoulder), NT Haloti Ngata (back). LIMITED: TE Edgar Jones (hamstring). **VIKINGS:** DNP: WR Percy Harvin (shoulder). LIMITED: DE Ray Edwards (hamstring), G Steve Hutchinson (back), T Phil Loadholt (ankle), WR Darius Reynaud (hamstring), RB Naufahu Tahi (ankle). FULL: CB Cedric Griffin (hand).

NEW YORK GIANTS at NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — GIANTS: DNP: LB Michael Boley (knee), RB Ahmad Bradshaw (ankle, foot), DT Chris Canty (calf), CB Aaron Ross (hamstring). LIMITED: TE Kevin Boss (ankle), S C.C. Brown (shoulder), QB Eli Manning (foot). FULL: LB Bryan Kehl (finger), G Rich Seubert (shoulder), RB Danny Ware (elbow). **SAINTS:** DNP: G Jahri Evans (toe), WR Rod Harper (foot), CB Malcolm Jenkins (ankle), CB Leigh Torrence (hamstring). LIMITED: RB Pierre Thomas (hamstring). FULL: RB Mike Bell (knee), T Jermon Bushrod (knee, ankle), DT Kendrick Clancy (knee), TE Darnell Dinkins (foot), LB Jason Kyle (knee, ankle).

CLEVELAND BROWNS at PITTSBURGH STEELERS — BROWNS: DNP: DE Kenyon Coleman (groin), TE Steve Heiden (knee), DT Shaun Rogers (not injury related). LIMITED: S Mike Adams (groin), LB Eric Barton (neck), LB David Bowens (knee), K Phil Dawson (right calf), G Rex Hadnot (knee), LB D'Qwell Jackson (hamstring), RB Jamal Lewis (hamstring), TE Robert Royal (foot, finger), LB Kamerion Wimbley (shoulder), G Floyd Womack (ankle). FULL: CB Gerard Lawson (groin), T John St. Clair (thumb), P Dave Zastudil (right knee). **STEELERS:** DNP: G Trai Essex (ankle), LB James Farrior (elbow), LB Andre Frazier (thigh), DE Travis Kirschke (back), WR Hines Ward (not injury related). FULL: RB Willie Parker (toe), S Troy Polamalu (knee).

CAROLINA PANTHERS at TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS — PANTHERS: DNP: RB Jonathan Stewart (Achilles). LIMITED: LB James Anderson (concussion), LB Jon Beason (knee), LB Na'il Diggs (rib), DT Nick Hayden (toe), CB Captain Munnerlyn (shoulder). **BUCCANEERS:** DNP: RB B.J. Askew (back, neck), TE Jerramy Stevens (quadricep). LIMITED: WR Antonio Bryant (knee), T Donald Penn (ankle), DE Jimmy Wilkerson (knee). FULL: C Jeff Faine (triceps), RB Earnest Graham (hamstring), DE Kyle Moore (knee), RB Clifton Smith (ankle).

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS at WASHINGTON REDSKINS — CHIEFS: DNP: T Branden Albert (ankle), G Andy Alleman (shoulder), S Jarrad Page (shoulder). **REDSKINS:** DNP: DE Phillip Daniels (biceps), DT Cornelius Griffin (elbow), T Chris Samuels (neck), P Hunter Smith (right groin). LIMITED: DT Albert Haynesworth (ankle), DT Anthony Montgomery (knee), RB Clinton Portis (calf).

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES at OAKLAND RAIDERS — EAGLES: OUT: G Todd Herremans (foot), CB Dimitri Patterson (quadricep, hand). LIMITED: CB Sheldon Brown (abdomen). FULL: TE Brent Celek (knee), WR Kevin Curtis (knee), CB Ellis Hobbs (wrist), QB Donovan McNabb (rib, left shoulder), CB Asante Samuel (calf). **RAIDERS:** Practice not complete.

ARIZONA CARDINALS at SEATTLE SEAHAWKS — CARDINALS: DNP: TE Stephen Spach (ankle). LIMITED: WR Steve Breaston (knee), DE Kenny Iwebema (ankle), CB Bryant McFadden (ankle), CB Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie (finger), RB Jason Wright (back). FULL: DT Darnell Dockett (ankle), G Reggie Wells (thumb). **SEAHAWKS:** OUT: LB Leroy Hill (groin), T Walter Jones (knee), T Sean Locklear (ankle), G Rob Sims (ankle), S C.J. Wallace (hamstring). LIMITED: WR Nate Burleson (back), CB Travis Fisher (groin), DE Patrick Kerney (groin), G Mansfield Wrotto (ankle). FULL: QB Matt Hasselbeck (rib), DE Lawrence Jackson (rib), DT Cory Redding (shoulder).

TENNESSEE TITANS at NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — TITANS: DNP: CB Cortland Finnegan (hamstring), S Michael Griffin (neck), G Leroy Harris (concussion), G Jake Scott (illness), TE Craig Stevens (concussion). LIMITED: LB Colin Allred (shoulder), S Vincent Fuller (forearm), LB Stanford Keglar (hamstring). FULL: DT Jason Jones (shoulder). **PATRIOTS:** DNP: T Matt Light (knee), WR Randy Moss (not injury related), RB Fred Taylor (ankle), DT Ty Warren (calf). LIMITED: DE Jarvis Green (knee), T Nick Kaczur (ankle), LB Jerod Mayo (knee), S James Sanders (shoulder), CB Shawn Springs (knee), TE Benjamin Watson (head), WR Wes Welker (knee), DT Vince Wilfork (ankle). FULL: QB Tom Brady (right shoulder).

BUFFALO BILLS at NEW YORK JETS — BILLS: DNP: CB Terrence McGee (knee), S Bryan Scott (ankle), T Jonathan Scott (ankle). LIMITED: LB Paul Posluszny (forearm), WR Josh Reed (fibula), S Donte Whitner (thumb). **JETS:** DNP: WR Jerricho Cotchery (hamstring), DE Shaun Ellis (knee), WR Brad Smith (quadricep), T Damien Woody (foot). LIMITED: CB Lito Sheppard (quadricep), CB Donald Strickland (ankle). FULL: LB Larry Izzo (hamstring), S Jim Leonhard (knee), S Kerry Rhodes (knee), WR Wallace Wright (knee).

CHICAGO BEARS at ATLANTA FALCONS — BEARS: DNP: DT Anthony Adams (toe), LB Hunter Hillenmeyer (rib), DT Israel Idonije (knee), RB Adrian Peterson (knee). LIMITED: DT Tommie Harris (knee). FULL: LB Pisa Tinoisamoa (knee). **FALCONS:** DNP: S Antoine Harris (knee), RB Ovie Mughelli (calf). FULL: K Jason Elam (left hamstring).

Pro basketball

NBA preseason

Tuesday's games
Boston 91, New Jersey 88
Washington 101, Detroit 98
Philadelphia 93, New York 85
Chicago 87, Milwaukee 86
Orlando 121, New Orleans 86
Wednesday's games
Washington 109, Cleveland 104
Boston 106, Toronto 90
Atlanta 111, Memphis 96
Oklahoma City 96, Miami 91
Chicago 99, Minnesota 94
L.A. Clippers 93, San Antonio 90
Phoenix 110, Portland 104
Thursday's games
Houston at Toronto
New Orleans vs. Miami at Kansas City, Mo.
Detroit at Dallas
Portland at Utah
Sacramento vs. L.A. Lakers at Las Vegas
Friday's games
Houston at Indiana
New Jersey at New York
Minnesota at Chicago
Cleveland at San Antonio
Philadelphia at Phoenix

Boxing

Fight schedule

Oct. 17
At Berlin, Arthur Abraham, Germany, vs. Jermain Taylor, Little Rock, Ark., 12, super middleweights.
At Trent FM Arena, Nottingham, England, Carl Froch, Britain, vs. Andre Dirrell, Flint, Mich., 12, for Froch's WBC super middleweight title.
At Chiapas, Mexico, Cristobal Cruz, Mexico, vs. Ricardo Castillo, Mexico, 12, for Cruz's IBF featherweight title.
Oct. 31
At TBA, Joseph Agbeko, Bronx, N.Y., vs. Yonnhy Perez, Santa Fe Springs, calif., 12, for Agbeko's IBF bantamweight title.

TANK MCNAMARA

A WEEKLY LOOK **RACING STRIPES** AT MOTORSPORTS

Where does the IRL go from here?

After tight finish, defection-free offseason could boost IndyCar

BY TIM REYNOLDS
The Associated Press

After Dario Franchitti picked up about $1.2 million in bonus cash and other prizes to commemorate his IndyCar Series championship, three of his pursuers finally caught him.

Scott Dixon, Ryan Briscoe and Tony Kanaan grabbed Franchitti during the season-ending awards night and tossed him into the hotel pool.

That's one way for IRL to make a splash.

Depending on one's perspective, cases could be made that the 2009 IndyCar season was a thriving success — three title contenders not settling the year's championship until the final minutes of the season — or an absolute dud, in which the Target Chip Ganassi and Penske teams were light years ahead almost every week and the series' best-known drivers made more news off the track than on it.

Numbers suggest the fan base grew, but even the most optimistic observer would say that IndyCar still has its challenges.

"The opportunities for the league to get better really rest in how we attract more sponsors to raise the overall value of our business," said Terry Angstadt, the president of IRL's commercial division. "We think we've got a pretty competitive racing product. We've had four years in a row, down to the final race. Can that be tweaked and made better? Absolutely. But we think it's pretty good."

If there are no major defections this year, it would be a welcome change for the IndyCar world.

J PAT CARTER/AP

Dario Franchitti, center, emerged as the IndyCar champion with a victory in the season finale, finishing a battle to the wire with Ryan Briscoe, left, and Scott Dixon, right. It was an interesting ride all the way during a season in which some of series' best-known drivers made more news off the track than on it.

Danica Patrick has all but said she'll be back in her IndyCar for the 2010 season — "We'll be ready for next year," Patrick said after the season-ending Indy 300 at Homestead-Miami Speedway — but still hasn't confirmed widespread reports she's already committed to staying with Andretti Green Racing through 2012.

Patrick's flirtation with NASCAR is no secret, and there are several teams with interest in bringing her aboard.

And it seems like everyone has advice for Patrick, who flatly refuses to discuss any aspect of her decision-making process about the future.

"Drive everything with a body on it, ARCA, Truck, (Nationwide), Cup, hit some walls," three-time reigning NASCAR champion Jimmie Johnson said. "It's tough because she's obviously going to have the spotlight on her. But hit walls, tear up equipment, make mistakes, you have to go through that. You cannot shortcut that aspect. ... You have to go through those experiences to learn."

Former CART and Formula One star Juan Pablo Montoya, who made the jump to NASCAR in 2006 and is finally contending for the Sprint Cup title, said he'd tell Patrick that a switch won't be easy, especially if she decides to race full time in the IRL and part time in NASCAR.

"You're going to get comfortable in one thing and then you're going to get to the other thing," Montoya said. "And every time it's going to be like night and day."

Franchitti, who left for NASCAR after winning his first IRL title in 2007, is back and says he doesn't want to go anywhere else. Dixon and Briscoe, the other members of the triumvirate that switched places atop the IndyCar standings all season long, left Homestead talking excitedly about 2010.

Indy 500 champion Helio Castroneves has his tax woes behind him, Tony Kanaan has already had surgery with hopes of being stronger in 2010, and young drivers like Marco Andretti seem on the cusp of being title contenders.

"I really think we're growing," Briscoe said. "It's fantastic that we had two previous champions fighting for the championship. It's names people are familiar with and that's important, because fans need someone to follow. And continuity with the drivers, that's even more important."

So is getting the IRL into bigger markets.

Next season starts in Brazil, where IndyCar is certain to be received ravenously, given many drivers' ties to South American. Sometime soon, Angstadt expects to announce a title sponsor for the series, he leaves for China next week to explore possibilities of adding a race there and said at least one major U.S. city is being targeted for future races.

"We help ourselves in a couple of ways, flat-out sponsorship in a number of categories from title down, and where we race because our product is more valuable in some markets than others," Angstadt said. "So if we can go to a certain large (market area) in the United States, get paid a healthy sanction fee and put on a great show, make it successful for everyone? Big priority."

There's always going to be internal squabbles about the split between road-course races and ovals; it's nearly a 50-50 split next year, the sort of diversity that helped lure Franchitti back to IndyCar. Some drivers clearly prefer road courses, others strongly favor more ovals.

But if the product gets stronger, those issues won't seem as significant.

"That's how our business gets better," Angstadt said.

AP Sports Writer Will Graves contributed to this story.

FAST FACTS

SPRINT CUP

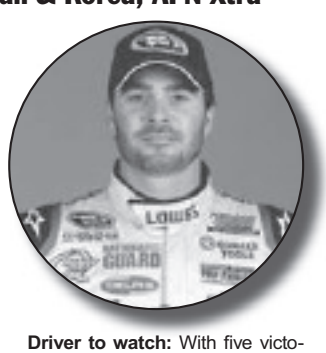
Race 31: NASCAR Banking 500
at Lowe's Motor Speedway, Concord, N.C.
8:25 a.m. Sunday, Japan & Korea, AFN-Xtra

Last race: Jimmie Johnson took the Chase lead in his bid for a record fourth straight season title, easily pulling away from Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jeff Gordon after a late restart in Fontana, Calif. Johnson has five victories this year and 45 overall — 16 in Chase races.

Last year: Jeff Burton raced to his second victory of the season for Richard Childress Racing, holding off Kasey Kahne. Kurt Busch was third.

Worth noting: Johnson has five victories at Lowe's in the No. 48 Lowe's Chevrolet, matching Gordon for the active lead.

Next race: Tums Fast Relief 500. Oct. 25, Martinsville Speedway, Martinsville, Va.



Driver to watch: With five victories, including four in a row in 2004-05, **Johnson** obviously is the driver to beat. Besides, he's won five times this season, including last week.

DRIVER STANDINGS

Through 30 of 36 races

1.	Jimmie Johnson	5,728
2.	Mark Martin	5,716
3.	Juan Pablo Montoya	5,670
4.	Tony Stewart	5,644
5.	Jeff Gordon	5,623
6.	Kurt Busch	5,607
7.	Greg Biffle	5,540
8.	Carl Edwards	5,536
9.	Denny Hamlin	5,509
10.	Ryan Newman	5,505
11.	Kasey Kahne	5,422
12.	Brian Vickers	5,377
13.	Kyle Busch	3,613
14.	Matt Kenseth	3,599
15.	Clint Bowyer	3,549
16.	David Reutimann	3,526
17.	Marcos Ambrose	3,274
18.	Jeff Burton	3,135
19.	Casey Mears	3,123
20.	Joey Logano	3,042
21.	Kevin Harvick	3,032
22.	Dale Earnhardt Jr.	2,937
23.	Jamie McMurray	2,877
24.	AJ Allmendinger	2,865
25.	Martin Truex Jr.	2,847

NATIONWIDE SERIES

This week: Dollar General 300 at Concord, N.C. (9 a.m. Saturday, AFN-Xtra).

Next race: Kroger On Track for the Cure 250, Oct. 24, Memphis Motorsports Park, Memphis, Tenn.

Driver Standings

1.	Kyle Busch	4,809
2.	Carl Edwards	4,654
3.	Brad Keselowski	4,582

CAMPING WORLD TRUCKS

Last race: Johnny Sauter raced to his first career Trucks victory Sept. 26 in Las Vegas, taking the lead from Matt Crafton with 16 laps left.

Next race: Kroger 200, Oct. 24, Martinsville Speedway, Martinsville, Va.

Driver Standings

1.	Ron Hornaday Jr.	3,210
2.	Matt Crafton	3,013
3.	Mike Skinner	2,955

FORMULA ONE

This week: Brazilian Grand Prix at Sao Paulo.

Next race: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, Nov. 1, Yas Marina Circuit, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Driver Standings

1.	Jenson Button	85
2.	Rubens Barrichello	71
3.	Sebastian Vettel	69

INDYCAR SERIES

Last race: Dario Franchitti won the final race of the season, the Firestone Indy 300.

Final Driver Standings

1.	Dario Franchitti	616
2.	Scott Dixon	605
3.	Ryan Briscoe	604

NHRA

Last event: Mike Edwards went wire-to-wire at the NHRA Virginia Nationals, earning the maximum 150 points to nearly clinch his first Pro Stock title. Del Worsham (Funny Car) and Brandon Bernstein (Top Fuel) also won in the fourth of six playoff events.

Next event: NHRA Las Vegas Nationals, Oct. 29-Nov. 1, Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas.

Driver Standings

Top fuel

1.	Tony Schumacher	2,427
2.	Larry Dixon	2,380
3.	Cory McClenathan	2,359

Funny car

1.	Robert Hight	2,362
2.	Ashley Force Hood	2,349
3.	Tony Pedregon	2,314

Pro stock

1.	Mike Edwards	2,524
2.	Greg Anderson	2,396
3.	Jason Line	2,373

FOR MORE COVERAGE: WWW.STRIPES.COM/RACING

MLB PLAYOFFS

Uniform different, face is familiar

Abreu, Teixeira lead their new teams into ALCS showdown with their former clubs

By Mike Fitzpatrick
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Mark Teixeira and Bobby Abreu have plenty in common. Smooth swings, sharp eyes, opposite-field power.

And something else now, too.

As the New York Yankees and Los Angeles Angels prepare to meet for the American League pennant, both sluggers can easily recall what life was like in the other dugout.

"That team over there, just like us, expects to win every game they play," said Teixeira, who left Los Angeles last offseason for a free-agent contract with the Yankees. "They're so professional. They do everything right. They're meticulous."

And better than ever, perhaps, with Abreu in the lineup.

"It's going to be something. Very interesting," said Abreu, who spent 2½ seasons in New York. "I was there, and it gives you a lot of emotions, but right now I represent the Angels."

After going coast to coast last winter, Teixeira and Abreu enjoyed similar success this season — albeit for disparate dollars.

Several teams offered big-money deals to Teixeira, who signed with New York for $180 million over eight years. Abreu, despite a durable track record of steady production with the Philadelphia Phillies and Yankees, had to wait and wait just to land a job.

Seeking a multiyear deal, he filed for free agency following a solid season with New York. But the economic downturn and a crowded free-agent class left the 35-year-old outfielder with few attractive suitors.

Right before spring training, Abreu joined the Angels on a $5 million, one-year contract that's turned into quite a bargain. He earned an additional $1 million in performance bonuses for reaching 650 plate appearances.

"I was shocked that Bobby Abreu was available — and I was shocked that we got him for $5 million, too," Angels teammate Torii Hunter said. "It was a blessing. I can tell you that, man. We're thankful to have him over here. I was excited in spring training because I know what he can do."

What Abreu did was hit .293 with 15 homers, 103 RBIs, 94 walks and 30 stolen bases. He also batted .354 with runners in scoring position and reached 100 RBIs and 30 steals for the fifth time.

In a first-round playoff sweep of Boston, Abreu went 5-for-9 (.556) with two doubles, four walks and four runs scored. That performance improved his playoffs average to .357.

"Bobby is a very consistent player that can beat you in a lot of different ways," Yankees manager Joe Girardi said. "He's a very heads-up player and he knows how to play this game, and that's why he's dangerous."

Next up for Abreu, a matchup with his former team in the AL championship series. Game 1 is Friday night at Yankee Stadium, with CC Sabathia scheduled to pitch against Angels right-hander John Lackey.

"I don't have to prove anything. I'll spread my wings and do the best for our team," Abreu said. "Both teams are pretty good. Both have the talent to go to the World Series."

Teixeira is a big reason the Yankees feel confident, too.

The switch-hitting first baseman has been everything New York could have hoped for — on offense and defense. He batted .292 and led the AL with 122 RBIs, tying Tampa Bay's Carlos Pena for the home run crown with 39.

Then, in a division series sweep of Minnesota, Teixeira hit a game-winning homer in the 11th inning of Game 2.

"He never puts his head down," teammate Robinson Cano said before the Yankees worked out Wednesday. "That's a guy that you want to follow."

Only months before he could become a free agent, Teixeira was traded from Atlanta to Los Angeles in July 2008. He helped lead the team to an AL West title, but the Angels were eliminated in the first round of the playoffs by Boston.

Now, he's on the cusp of his first trip to the World Series. But first, New York has to get past a long-time nemesis.

The Angels are 73-63 against the Yankees since 1996, when New York began a run of four championships in five years. That makes Los Angeles the only AL club to have a winning record against the Yankees during that span.

The Angels also twice eliminated the Yankees from the playoffs, winning division series matchups in 2002 and 2005.

Teixeira's not sure why that is.

"I was only there for two months. That's not very long at all," he said. "I don't know, I think maybe they just thought they had the Yankees' number. It wasn't because of anything. We didn't have a meeting and said, 'Hey, we have their signs, we have this, we have that,' you know? They just expected to win."

The Yankees acquired Abreu in a July 2006 trade with Philadelphia and he certainly provided the production they were looking for. He finished both full seasons in New York with at least 100 RBIs, 100 runs and 22 stolen bases.

But the Yankees didn't make it past the first round of the playoffs during his tenure and fans grew impatient with his shaky defense — he often appeared to shy away from the outfield fence.

Still, Abreu doesn't expect a cold reception in New York.

"I think it's going to be all right," he said. "I didn't do (anything) wrong over there. I think the fans still like me."

Elise Amendola (Abreu), Julie Jacobson/AP

Bobby Abreu, left, went from the New York Yankees to the Los Angeles Angels after last season, while Mark Teixeira, right, went from the Angels to the Yankees. They'll face their old team when the American League championship series begins Friday in New York.

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NHL roundup

Rangers stretch streak

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Both teams were in full agreement: the Los Angeles Kings clearly outplayed the New York Rangers.

The scoreboard said otherwise at the end of a matchup between the NHL's hottest clubs.

Vinny Prospal scored two goals — including his 200th in the NHL — during first-period power plays and the Rangers stretched their winning streak to six games with a 4-2 victory Wednesday night.

"You just find a way to win when you're not on — and we were not on," Rangers coach John Tortorella said. "We were behind in every facet of the game but we still found a way to win.

"That's a good sign."

Prospal added an assist on Marian Gaborik's sixth of the season that made it 4-2 at 4:22 of the third — on the Rangers' only shot in the period. Gaborik has 10 points and at least one in all seven games.

"Third period is crunch time," Tortorella said. "He is that guy that you need to make a big play."

The Rangers swept a three-game homestand in four days and improved to 6-0 since a season-opening loss at Pittsburgh, despite Tortorella's admission that his club looked tired.

Former Kings forward Brian Boyle scored a second-period goal, and Henrik Lundqvist stopped 34 shots for his fifth win in six games. It is New York's longest winning streak since another six-game run in the 2005-06 season.

"We have a lot of confidence right now," Lundqvist said. "It's not easy to play the third game at home in a row ... you get a little comfortable."

Ryan Smyth and Michal Handzus scored for Los Angeles, which had won four in a row. Erik Ersberg, making his first start of the season in relief of No. 1 goalie Jon Quick, stopped 17 shots.

GERRY BROOME/AP

Pittsburgh Penguins' Chris Kunitz (14) reacts after making the game-winning goal against the Carolina Hurricanes in Raleigh, N.C., Wednesday. Pittsburgh won 3-2 in a shootout.

"Going into the third, we felt this game was ours to have," Kings captain Dustin Brown said. "We realize this is a good game for us and we are all comfortable with everything that happened."

Smyth has been quite an addition to the Kings' top line. He has five goals and nine points in six games, reaching the score sheet in each contest. Los Angeles, however, dropped to 2-1 on its six-game road trip that began with wins at St. Louis and the New York Islanders.

Prospal gave the Rangers a 1-0 lead 3:11 in when he tipped in defenseman Michael Del Zotto's shot for his milestone goal in his 15th NHL season.

Gaborik quickly retrieved the puck and handed it to Prospal.

Smyth answered 1:10 later with a similar deflection in front, but Prospal struck again for goal No. 201 — his third of the season — during New York's 5-on-3 power play at 13:03.

Prospal got help from video replay that showed that he chipped the puck in from behind the net before the referee's whistle blew.

"I thought it was an unfortunate break for us. In my understanding of it, it is not a reviewable situation," Kings coach Terry Murray said.

Blackhawks 4, Oilers 3: At Chicago, Patrick Sharp, Kris Versteeg, Jack Skille and Cam Barker scored against former teammate Nikolai Khabibulin to help Chicago beat Edmonton.

Mostly a high-priced disappointment during his four years in Chicago but a standout last season in the Blackhawks' run to the Western Conference finals, Khabibulin made 34 saves. He stopped Sharp on a penalty shot in the second period.

Andrew Cogliano, Dustin Penner and Denis Grebeshkov scored for Edmonton.

Penguins 3, Hurricanes 2 (SO): Chris Kunitz beat Cam Ward on the 12th shot of a shootout to help Pittsburgh improve to 5-0 on the road for the first time in team history.

Evgeni Malkin and Michael Rupp scored in regulation for the Stanley Cup champion Penguins.

Ray Whitney scored twice for Carolina, helping the Hurricanes rally from a 2-0 deficit to force overtime.

Stars 6, Predators 0: At Dallas, Brenden Morrow scored twice in the opening four minutes of Dallas' four-goal first period, while Marty Turco stopped 29 shots for his 37th career shutout.

Brad Richards added a goal and two assists, and Loui Eriksson had a goal and an assist during the first-period outburst to help the Stars win at home for the first time this season.

Ducks 3, Wild 2: Corey Perry scored two goals in the first 8½ minutes, and Jonas Hiller made 32 saves for host Anaheim.

Ryan Carter also scored for the Ducks, who returned from a four-game trip to open a six-game homestand. Niklas Backstrom stopped 32 shots.

Shipley: WR increases his workload

SHIPLEY, FROM BACK PAGE

In last week's 38-14 victory over Colorado, Texas trailed 14-3 before Shipley turned a Buffaloes cornerback inside out with a double move to get open for an easy 39-yard TD just before halftime.

"The (cornerback) nearly falls down," Texas coach Mack Brown said.

Shipley is taking on extra duty as Texas gets into the heart of its conference schedule. Brown rested him on kickoff returns through the first four games, but he was back in that role against Colorado.

That forces the Sooners to make a tough choice Saturday: Kick to Shipley or freshman D.J. Monroe, who has two kickoff returns for TDs already this year.

"They give us a chance, every time, to score," Brown said.

Shipley shrugs off the extra work. He is used to being a football iron man.

"In high school, I never came off the field," Shipley said. "I was kicking extra points and field goals ... doing everything."

Few receivers can log the number of plays Shipley does. He was on the field for more than 80 snaps in last season's Fiesta Bowl win over Ohio State.

Shipley said it boils down to this: If McCoy is on the field, so is he.

He hasn't always been so durable. Knee and hamstring injuries kept him off the field in 2004 and 2005. It was a frustrating time as he watched Texas' first national title season in 36 years from the sideline.

He also had to be wary of trying to come back from the injuries before he was ready.

"It's always been a challenge for me to not do too much. Doing extra is kind of what made me what I am," Shipley said.

He could have left school after last season. He graduated in December with a degree in kinesiology and is now enrolled in a master's program. He applied to the NCAA for a sixth year of eligibility because he wanted a chance to win Big 12 and national titles of his own.

"The main thing is I wanted to end on a good note. I've had so much fun," Shipley said.

AP Sports Writer Jeff Latzke in Oklahoma City contributed to this report.

NHL scoreboard

Eastern Conference

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	7	6	1	0	12	28	14
Pittsburgh	7	6	1	0	12	24	17
Philadelphia	5	3	1	1	7	19	15
New Jersey	5	3	2	0	6	14	15
N.Y. Islanders	4	0	1	3	3	9	13
Northeast Division							
Buffalo	4	3	0	1	7	10	5
Ottawa	5	3	2	0	6	12	14
Boston	5	2	3	0	4	16	19
Montreal	5	2	3	0	4	12	18
Toronto	6	0	5	1	1	13	28
Southeast Division							
Tampa Bay	5	2	1	2	6	15	16
Washington	6	2	2	2	6	22	21
Carolina	6	2	3	1	5	15	20
Atlanta	3	2	1	0	4	12	9
Florida	5	1	4	0	2	10	20

Western Conference

Central Division	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	6	4	1	1	9	23	18
Columbus	5	4	1	0	8	14	11
St. Louis	4	2	2	0	4	12	12
Detroit	5	2	3	0	4	14	19
Nashville	5	2	3	0	4	7	17
Northwest Division							
Colorado	6	4	1	1	9	21	13
Calgary	7	4	2	1	9	25	25
Edmonton	6	3	2	1	7	23	19
Vancouver	5	2	3	0	4	17	17
Minnesota	5	1	4	0	2	12	18
Pacific Division							
Los Angeles	6	4	2	0	8	21	19
Anaheim	6	3	2	1	7	16	16
San Jose	6	3	2	1	7	20	18
Dallas	5	2	0	3	7	20	14
Phoenix	5	3	2	0	6	11	7

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Wednesday's games

Pittsburgh 3, Carolina 2, SO
N.Y. Rangers 4, Los Angeles 2
Chicago 4, Edmonton 3
Dallas 6, Nashville 0
Anaheim 3, Minnesota 2

Thursday's games

San Jose at Washington
Colorado at Montreal
Los Angeles at Detroit
Tampa Bay at Ottawa
Chicago at Nashville
St. Louis at Phoenix

Friday's games

Atlanta at New Jersey
N.Y. Islanders at Buffalo
Philadelphia at Florida
Boston at Dallas
Minnesota at Edmonton
Vancouver at Calgary

Wednesday

Stars 6, Predators 0

Nashville	0	0	0—0
Dallas	4	1	1—6

First Period—1, Dallas, Morrow 3 (Ribeiro, Benn), 3:17. 2, Dallas, Richards 3 (Eriksson, Neal), 3:57. 3, Dallas, Eriksson 2 (Neal, Richards), 6:31. 4, Dallas, Morrow 4 (Richards, Benn), 8:48 (pp).

Second Period—5, Dallas, Eriksson 3 (Neal, Ribeiro), 1:27 (pp).

Third Period—6, Dallas, Petersen 1 (Skrastins, Lehtinen), 17:47.

Shots on Goal—Nashville 9-9-11—29. Dallas 8-11-7—26.

Power-play opportunities—Nashville 0 of 4; Dallas 2 of 4.

Goalies—Nashville, D.Ellis 2-1-0 (3 shots-0 saves), Rinne (6:31 first, 23-20). Dallas, Turco 1-0-3 (29-29).

A—16,365 (18,532). **T**—2:23.

Ducks 3, Wild 2

Minnesota	0	1	1—2
Anaheim	2	1	0—3

First Period—1, Anaheim, Perry 3 (Boynton), 1:41. 2, Anaheim, Perry 4 (Ryan, Mikkelson), 8:29.

Second Period—3, Anaheim, Carter 1 (Brown), 15:11. 4, Minnesota, Belanger 2, 16:35.

Third Period—5, Minnesota, Brunette 4 (Brodziak, Belanger), 19:50.

Shots on Goal—Minnesota 8-18-8—34. Anaheim 14-8-13—35.

Power-play opportunities—Minnesota 0 of 4; Anaheim 0 of 4.

Goalies—Minnesota, Backstrom 1-3-0 (35 shots-32 saves). Anaheim, Hiller 3-1-0 (34-32).

A—15,111 (17,174). **T**—2:16.

Blackhawks 4, Oilers 3

Edmonton	1	0	2—3
Chicago	2	1	1—4

First Period—1, Chicago, Sharp 5 (Toews, Ladd), :51. 2, Edmonton, Cogliano 2 (Moreau, Visnovsky), 2:30. 3, Chicago, Skille 1 (Hjalmarsson, Campbell), 13:15.

Second Period—4, Chicago, Versteeg 2 (Campbell, Sharp), 9:12.

Third Period—5, Edmonton, Penner 3 (Brule, Gilbert), 10:43. 6, Chicago, Barker 2 (Toews, Keith), 17:18. 7, Edmonton, Grebeshkov 3 (Hemsky, Penner), 19:12.

Missed Penalty Shot—Sharp, Chi, 17:01 second.

Shots on Goal—Edmonton 6-4-9—19. Chicago 16-14-8—38.

Power-play opportunities—Edmonton 1 of 3; Chicago 1 of 2.

Goalies—Edmonton, Khabibulin 2-2-1 (38-34). Chicago, Niemi 3-0-0 (19-16).

A—20,124 (19,717). **T**—2:20.

Rangers 4, Kings 2

Los Angeles	1	1	0—2
N.Y. Rangers	2	1	1—4

First Period—1, N.Y. Rangers, Prospal 2 (Del Zotto, Kotalik), 3:11 (pp). 2, Los Angeles, Smyth 5 (Drewiske, J.Williams), 4:21. 3, N.Y. Rangers, Prospal 3 (Callahan, Kotalik), 13:03 (pp).

Second Period—4, N.Y. Rangers, Boyle 1 (Rozsival, Del Zotto), 2:17. 5, Los Angeles, Handzus 3 (J.Johnson, Purcell), 7:18 (pp).

Third Period—6, N.Y. Rangers, Gaborik 6 (Prospal, Girardi), 4:22.

Shots on Goal—Los Angeles 12-14-10—36. N.Y. Rangers 9-11-1—21.

Power-play opportunities—Los Angeles 1 of 7; N.Y. Rangers 2 of 3.

Goalies—Los Angeles, Ersberg 0-1-0 (21 shots-17 saves). N.Y. Rangers, Lundqvist 5-1-0 (36-34).

A—18,200 (18,200). **T**—2:25.

Penguins 3, Hurricanes 2 (SO)

Pittsburgh	1	1	0	0—3
Carolina	0	0	2	0—2

Pittsburgh won shootout 2-1

First Period—1, Pittsburgh, Rupp 1 (Malkin, Goligoski), 14:24.

Second Period—2, Pittsburgh, Malkin 3 (Dupuis, Kunitz), 4:27.

Third Period—3, Carolina, Whitney 2 (Ruutu, Corvo), 4:25. 4, Carolina, Whitney 3 (Gleason, Ruutu), 10:04.

Shootout—Pittsburgh 2 (Letang NG, Crosby G, Guerin NG, Goligoski NG, Malkin NG, Kunitz G), Carolina 1 (Samsonov NG, Jokinen G, Ruutu NG, Cullen NG, Whitney NG, E.Staal NG).

Shots on Goal—Pittsburgh 9-14-11-4—38. Carolina 8-10-10-1—29.

Power-play opportunities—Pittsburgh 0 of 4; Carolina 0 of 3.

Goalies—Pittsburgh, Fleury 6-0-0 (29-27). Carolina, C.Ward 2-3-1 (38-36).

A—14,053 (18,680). **T**—2:31.

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Boise State hangs on, tops Tulsa to reach 6-0

By Jeff Latzke
The Associated Press

TULSA, Okla. — Coach Chris Petersen would like to see Boise State learn to deliver a knockout punch instead of trading blows until the final bell.

He'll still take a victory any way he can get it.

Kellen Moore threw three touchdown passes, including a pair to tight end Tommy Gallarda, and the No. 5 Broncos fought off a late charge from Tulsa to win 28-21 Wednesday night and remain undefeated.

"We'll keep fighting, we'll keep working and one of these days we'll maybe get some breathing room in the fourth quarter," Petersen said.

Ten days after his team allowed UC Davis of the Football Championship Subdivision to stick around deep into the fourth quarter, Petersen's Broncos (6-0) had to cling to a seven-point lead after G.J. Kinne and Slick Shelley connected on consecutive passes for 91 yards — including a 55-yarder for a touchdown — in the final period.

Except for those two long connections, Boise State's defense limited the Golden Hurricane (4-2) — who led the nation in total offense each of the past two seasons — to 30 yards in the second half. But the Broncos could never shake free.

"We'll go back and rack our brain and try to figure out something. Usually, a lot of times that comes down to the run game but I thought we ran the ball well tonight," Petersen said after his team gained 128 of its 193 yards rushing in the second half.

"I thought the offensive line played well and I thought those backs did a good job for the most part. It would have been nice to hit a pass, a deep pass, down the line to kind of give us some breathing room. We just couldn't make a play."

Tulsa had one last chance to tie it in the final 2 minutes, but Boise State forced its fourth three-and-out of the second half.

Moore finished with 187 yards passing with touchdown throws of 8 and 2 yards to Gallarda and a 17-yarder to Austin Pettis.

Doug Martin had 112 yards on 23 carries in his second 100-yard game since moving back to offense after the Broncos lost running back D.J. Harper to a knee injury. Jeremy Avery added 73 yards as Boise State trampled Tulsa on the ground in the third quarter.

Martin had 83 of his team's 104 yards rushing in the third quarter as Boise State controlled ball for all but 2:48.

"This one hurt because we wanted this one pretty bad," Tulsa coach Todd Graham said. "If anything, we weren't outplayed, we were outcoached."

Petersen called it a "solid win" but he doubted it would be the kind of impressive statement pollsters were looking for as Boise State had the stage to themselves the same week the first Bowl Championship Series standings are to be released.

"It's usually never good enough for a lot of people, usually including us and our team," Petersen said. "Tulsa's a good team, and this was going to be a good test for us. I think we battled hard against some really explosive playmakers.

"The important thing is that we get a little bit better. Teams don't stay the same, and we won't either. We either need to get better or we're going to get passed by."

Tulsa represented one of the few challenges remaining on the Broncos' schedule as they move into Western Athletic Conference play. The rest of the teams on their schedule have a combined 16-21 record, and Idaho (5-1) is the only one with a winning mark.

The Golden Hurricane — playing in front of a sellout crowd of 30,000 — jumped on top early, capitalizing on a muffed punt by cornerback Kyle Wilson with some trickery on the very next play.

Kinne pitched the ball to A.J. Whitmore, Tulsa's usual wildcat quarterback, and he found speedy receiver Damaris Johnson behind the defense for a 53-yard TD pass.

It was the first time Boise State had trailed this season, and Moore immediately answered by leading a 68-yard scoring drive. He hit all three of his passes for 45 yards and converted a fourth-and-1 at the 10-yard line with a sneak to set up his 8-yard scoring toss to Gallarda.

He went 6-for-6 for 62 yards on the Broncos' next drive, answering Kinne's 15-yard scoring pass to Trae Johnson with a 17-yard TD connection to Pettis that sparked a run of 20 straight Broncos points.

Petersen said he's not concerned about accumulating style points.

"All we're trying to do is win. ... I'm not looking at that clock and there's not a player on this team looking going, 'Boy this isn't enough points.' It's enough points if it's one more than the opponent has," Petersen said. "We just really believe at the end of the season if we play our best and do what we want to do, then it'll work out like it should."

David Crenshaw/AP

Boise State quarterback Kellen Moore runs away from Tulsa's John Destin on Wednesday. Moore threw for three TDs for the Broncos.

Sports briefs

France, son make Hall class

The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — NASCAR founder Bill France headlined the five inductees into the first Hall of Fame class, a group that drew mixed reactions to the inclusion of France's son instead of driver David Pearson.

France, who formed the National Association of Stock Car Racing in 1947, was the first inductee announced Wednesday in a ceremony that followed a lengthy voting session at the Charlotte Convention Center.

Richard Petty, a seven-time Cup champion and NASCAR's career leader in victories, was the second inductee revealed by current NASCAR chairman Brian France, who received the five envelopes one at a time from an independent accounting firm.

Next up was Bill France Jr., son of the NASCAR founder who spent nearly 30 years at the helm of America's top motorsports series.

"When I seen the two Frances was in, I knew I didn't have a chance," Pearson said moments after the ceremony ended.

The final two nods instead went to Dale Earnhardt, NASCAR's other seven-time champion, and Junior Johnson, a former driver and car owner whose early days of running moonshine through the backroads of North Carolina stands as a symbol of NASCAR's start.

Pearson's exclusion surprised many, including Petty.

"Anybody that won 105 races and didn't make the cut — somebody ain't adding right," Petty said of Pearson.

Known as the "Silver Fox," Pearson ranked second only to Petty's 200 victories on NASCAR's career list.

The three-time Cup champion had a winning percentage of 18.2 percent in a career that spanned 27 years — but never a complete season.

NBA fines Brown $60K, Hollins $25K for criticizing refs

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Larry Brown became the first major target in the NBA's zero-tolerance policy toward criticizing its replacement referees.

The Bobcats coach was hit with $60,000 in fines on Wednesday and the Charlotte organization was fined another $60,000 after Brown's ejection from an exhibition game.

Memphis Grizzlies coach Lionel Hollins was also fined $25,000 for criticism after a game Monday, as the league attempts to protect its inexperienced officials while it locks out its regular referees in a labor dispute.

The NBA is using officials from the NBA Development League, WNBA and college ranks after the league's regular referees rejected a contract proposal two weeks ago.

Farrell staying with Red Sox

CLEVELAND — Cross Boston pitching coach John Farrell off Cleveland's managerial wish list.

Farrell told The Plain Dealer for a story on its Web site that he felt he had to fulfill his commitment to the Red Sox.

Farrell once pitched for Cleveland and was a farm director for the club.

MLB teams woo Japanese teen

TOKYO — The Boston Red Sox are among several major league teams lining up to woo Japanese high school pitcher Yusei Kikuchi.

The lefthander, 18, throws a fastball that has been clocked as high as 96 mph.

Kikuchi will talk with the Red Sox, Los Angeles Dodgers, Texas Rangers and the San Francisco Giants on Monday, the Nikkan Sports newspaper reported Thursday. The New York Yankees, New York Mets and Seattle Mariners are scheduled to meet with him the following day.

Molinari leads in Portugal

VILAMOURA, Portugal — Francesco Molinari had an eagle and eight birdies Thursday to post a round of 63 for a two-stroke lead after the first round of the Portugal Masters.

Despite one bogey, the Italian matched his lowest-ever score on the European Tour.

The last time Molinari scored that well was in the Irish Open five months ago. He was disqualified in the second round of that tournament for signing for the wrong score.

Alastair Forsyth, Justin Rose and Charl Schwartzel shot 65. Lee Westwood was in a group of six who shot 66.

Milwaukee PGA in jeopardy

MILWAUKEE — The organization that handles the annual PGA Tour stop in Milwaukee is dissolving after failing to find a sponsor, leaving the future of pro golf in the area on shaky ground.

The move virtually guarantees the Tour won't return to Milwaukee next year. Tournament director Dan Croak said Thursday the organization has run out of money after paying its bills and other financial obligations, including a donation of more than $520,000 to charities.

The tournament, originally known as the Greater Milwaukee Open, has been in operation since 1968. The tournament's popularity had been in decline of late, especially after it recently was moved to a date opposite the British Open and U.S. Bank announced its sponsorship of the tournament was ending.

Fedorov sues lawyers

DETROIT — Ex-Detroit Red Wings star Sergei Fedorov filed suit Thursday against Hyman Lippitt PC, his former Michigan lawyers, claiming they share responsibility for his loss of an estimated $60 million invested with another of the firm's clients.

MLS roundup

Real Salt Lake still in playoff race

The Associated Press

SANDY, Utah — Andy Williams and Fabian Espindola scored goals as Real Salt Lake kept its Major League Soccer playoff hopes alive with a 2-0 victory over the New York Red Bulls on Wednesday night.

Williams received a perfect cross from Robbie Findley in the 80th minute and beat goalkeeper Danny Cepero for his second goal of the season.

Espindola added his third goal in the 90th minute for RSL (10-11-7), which posted its first victory over New York (4-19-6) after going 0-4-6 against the franchise.

RSL came into the game needing at least a victory and a tie against New York and on Saturday at Toronto FC, combined with a victory or tie by Chicago against New England on Saturday, to stay in the playoff hunt.

The Red Bulls, well out of playoff contention, played mostly a defensive-minded game, taking just five shots with only one on goal.

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
y-Columbus	13	10	5	41	29	49
Chicago	10	11	7	38	34	41
New England	10	8	10	32	37	38
Toronto	9	9	10	36	41	36
D.C.	8	12	8	40	42	36
Kansas City	8	8	12	29	37	32
New York	4	6	19	22	47	18

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
x-Houston	12	8	8	36	27	44
x-Chivas	13	5	9	30	25	44
x-Los Angeles	11	11	6	34	31	44
Seattle	10	11	7	33	26	41
Colorado	10	10	8	41	33	40
Real Salt Lake	10	7	11	40	34	37
Dallas	10	6	12	47	44	36
San Jose	7	8	13	34	46	29

x- clinched playoff berth
y- clinched conference

Wednesday's game
Real Salt Lake 2, New York 0

Saturday's games
Real Salt Lake at Toronto FC
Chicago at New England
Columbus at D.C. United
Seattle FC at Kansas City
Colorado at FC Dallas
San Jose at Chivas USA

Sunday's games
Los Angeles at Houston

Thursday, October 22
Chivas USA at Chicago

Saturday, October 24
Toronto FC at New York
D.C. United at Kansas City
Colorado at Real Salt Lake
FC Dallas at Seattle FC
San Jose at Los Angeles

Sunday, October 25
Houston at Chivas USA
New England at Columbus

Wednesday
Real Salt Lake 2, Red Bulls 0

New York	0	0—0
Real Salt Lake	0	2—2

Second half—1, Real Salt Lake, Williams 2 (Findley, Olave), 80th minute. 2, Real Salt Lake, Espindola 3, 90th.
Goalies—New York, Danny Cepero; Real Salt Lake, Nick Rimando.
Yellow Cards—Beltran, Real Salt Lake, 3rd; Borman, New York, 39th; Johnson, Real Salt Lake, 59th; Boyens, New York, 86th.
A—16,247 (20,008)

MANUEL BALCE CENETA/AP

U.S. soccer fans display the No. 9 to honor forward Charlie Davies who suffered injuries in a one-car accident in nothern Virginia, before the start of a 2010 World Cup qualifying match between the United States and Costa Rica on Wednesday in Washington. The U.S. rallied in stoppage time to gain a 2-2 tie.

2010 World Cup qualifying

U.S. rallies from two down for tie

Already missing injured Davies, team loses Onyewu 3-4 months

BY JOSEPH WHITE
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Phew! So much happened to the U.S. soccer team in just five days.

Two players suffered serious injuries, one in an automobile accident and one in a game. Yet the Americans also earned a World Cup berth for the sixth straight time and finished their qualifying campaign with an emotional comeback, scoring two late goals to tie Costa Rica 2-2 Wednesday night at RFK Stadium.

"It felt like a huge win," goalkeeper Tim Howard said, "which it wasn't."

The U.S. team was playing for Charlie Davies, who remains hospitalized following the Tuesday morning one-vehicle accident and is all but certain to miss the World Cup. Recovering from several broken bones and other injuries, Davies was able to communicate with simple gestures but due to medication had not yet spoken since the surgery when coach Bob Bradley visited the hospital before the game.

"Our players would have all been there with me," Bradley said, "but it's not possible at the moment."

Late in the game, defender Oguchi Onyewu tore the patellar tendon in his left knee and is expected to be sidelined 3-4 four months. It's a bad blow, but at least he can remain in the team's World Cup plans.

"We've had two days of tough news," Bradley said.

There has also been joy. The World Cup bid was secured with a victory at Honduras on Saturday, and on Wednesday the Americans showed resiliency and resolve when they easily could have counted the game meaningless and coasted to a loss. With the U.S. down 2-0, Michael Bradley put in a rebound in the 72nd minute and Jonathan Bornstein headed in a corner kick from second-half substitute Robbie Rogers five minutes into stoppage time.

Afterward, the players took a victory lap. They carried a banner with the No. 9 — Davies' jersey number. Jozy Altidore, who started in place of Davies, wore a No. 9 shirt under his own No. 17 during the game. In the ninth minute of the first half, fans throughout the lower bowl of the stadium held up cards with the No. 9.

"Charlie is like a brother to me, so it was really tough news for me to hear," Altidore said. "We all wanted to try and go out and play for him tonight. I think the energy was there for a lot of guys. We were a little bit unlucky at times. I know myself, I was a little excited. I had the shirt on underneath, I wanted to show it to him badly."

But he couldn't. Altidore received a yellow card early and had to be reminded by Bradley not to lift the jersey in any kind of celebration — because that would yield a second yellow card and an automatic suspension for the U.S. World Cup opener in June.

"We used Charlie's situation to motivate us," Howard said. "We're happy he was alive, and that in itself gave us a lift. Charlie would give anything at this moment to put on a jersey and have it all back."

New Costa Rica coach Rene Simoes was given a red card in the 88th minute after arguing with officials and faces a possible suspension by FIFA for one or both games against Uruguay.

Wednesday
U.S. 2, Costa Rica 2

At Washington

Costa Rica	2	0—2
United States	0	2—2

First half—1, Costa Rica, Ruiz (Barrantes), 21st minute. 2, Costa Rica, Ruiz (Centeno), 24th minute.
Second half—3, United States, Bradley, 72d minute. 4, United States, Bornstein (Rogers), 90th minute.
Yellow Cards—Altidore, US, 14th; Montero, CR, 35th; Saborio, CR, 89th.
A—26,243.

NFL briefs

Cutler sidesteps talk of Bears adding T.O.

The Associated Press

LAKE FOREST, Ill. — If Jay Cutler is salivating at the thought of passing to Terrell Owens, he wasn't about to let the public in on it.

The Chicago Bears quarterback would not say Wednesday whether he'd like the team to acquire the flashy and controversial receiver from Buffalo.

Asked what he would say if Bears management approached him about Owens, Cutler responded: "I don't think they're going to. I think they'll keep that upstairs."

Is that because the team is happy with its wide receivers? Roughly translated, Cutler mumbled, "Hmmm."

And when asked if he's texted or tweeted Owens, Cutler simply said he doesn't know him. He did, however, let on that he has watched Owens' reality show and that it's "humorous."

While the possibility of Owens taking his act to the Magnificent Mile and joining forces with the strong-armed quarterback is a tantalizing one, Cutler likes what he's seeing from the Bears (3-1). They've won three straight and should be well-rested after an off week heading into their game Sunday night at Atlanta.

The Bears opted not to go after a high-profile receiver in the offseason, when Owens was on the market, and stuck with an unproven group. The results so far are promising. The Bears are averaging just over 26 points, and Devin Hester, Earl Bennett and rookie Johnny Knox have contributed on offense and special teams.

"We had high expectations for them," offensive coordinator Ron Turner said. "We felt good about that group coming in. The only knock on them was they're young and inexperienced. But we felt they were good players."

Kearse defends leaving game after being scratched

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee defensive end Jevon Kearse said he didn't stick around to watch the game against Indianapolis after being a healthy scratch, visiting with family instead.

And if deactivated again?

"It just depends on how I'm feeling," Kearse said Wednesday.

Going with a younger player in place of an older one whose production was down was an obvious football move for a Tennessee team that has yet to win a game after posting the NFL's best record last season. Coach Jeff Fisher didn't fine Kearse and insists the issue is over.

Kearse had started 21 games since being signed to a two-year contract in 2008. The 11-year veteran has only one sack, three quarterback pressures and nine tackles. The Titans started William Hayes, a fourth-round pick in 2008, in his place, and Hayes has 1½ sacks, six quarterback pressures and 26 tackles.

Jones-Drew questions Jaguars offensive attack

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Still reeling from a 41-0 loss at Seattle, Jacksonville Jaguars running back Maurice Jones-Drew lashed out at the team's play-calling, its lack of offensive identity and its constant shuffling of offensive linemen. Frustrated? Try furious.

In a 15-minute session with reporters Wednesday, Jones-Drew ripped several aspects of his team. He even called himself the second-highest paid "decoy" in the league, behind New Orleans running back Reggie Bush.

Jones-Drew acknowledged that his bitterness stemmed from the offense's struggles and the humbling shutout in Seattle.

"I don't like to be embarrassed, so I do get upset about it," Jones-Drew said. "You lead by actions. You can only say so much. You can talk to somebody until you're blue in the face and they're not going to do anything. But if you go out there and show why you're upset and you try to do something to correct your mistakes, then they'll pay attention."

Coach Jack Del Rio downplayed his star player's discontentment.

"He's a supreme competitor, and we really love that about him," Del Rio said.

Palmer practices with glove

CINCINNATI — With a black glove supporting his left hand, quarterback Carson Palmer went through a full practice on Wednesday, an indication that his sprained thumb won't be a problem this week.

Palmer hurt the thumb on his non-throwing hand during the fourth quarter on Sunday. He had to hand off using his right hand only for the rest of the game, forcing him to change how he handled the ball.

Palmer said on Wednesday that the thumb was much better — it wasn't taped when he met with reporters before practice — and shouldn't affect him on Sunday against the Houston Texans.

"Not an issue at all," Palmer said.

WR Cotchery among 4 Jets to miss practice

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — New York Jets wide receiver Jerricho Cotchery missed practice for a second day on Thursday because of a hamstring injury and his status for the team's game against Buffalo was questionable.

Cotchery sat out two days of practice last week, but played at Miami on Monday night and had one catch for 4 yards despite being in for about 30 snaps. Coach Rex Ryan said he's concerned about the injury, and added that Cotchery likely wouldn't practice Thursday.

"We'll see how he feels," Ryan said of Cotchery's availability for the game. "That's his decision. I'm never going to force a player to play if he doesn't feel right. We'll see how he does."

Limbaugh dropped from group seeking to buy Rams

ST. LOUIS — Conservative radio talk show host Rush Limbaugh blames others for being dropped from the group trying to buy the St. Louis Rams.

During his syndicated show Thursday, Limbaugh said he was approached by St. Louis Blues chairman Dave Checketts earlier this year about participating in a Rams bid. He also said Checketts had told him his involvement had been cleared at the "highest levels of the NFL."

NFL commissioner Roger Goodell and Indianapolis Colts owner Jim Irsay expressed misgivings about Limbaugh's involvement. On Wednesday, Checketts said Limbaugh had been dropped from the bid.

During a 15-minute counterattack at the start of his show, Limbaugh said he believes he's been made an example by a players' union seeking leverage in talks over a new collective bargaining agreement. And he believed what happened to him was an illustration of "Obama's America on full display."

Vanden Bosch fined for hit on Manning

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — The NFL fined Tennessee defensive end Kyle Vanden Bosch $5,000 for his hit on Indianapolis quarterback Peyton Manning.

Vanden Bosch said Thursday he knows what the rule is on not hitting quarterbacks around the knees. But Vanden Bosch said he'd been blocked and was going down as he grabbed Manning's legs during Sunday night's 31-9 loss to the Colts.

Coach Jeff Fisher, co-chairman of the competition committee, said earlier this week that the rule states roughing the passer should not be called if a player is blocked into a quarterback.

Bengals get extension to sell out Texans game

CINCINNATI — The Cincinnati Bengals got a one-day extension to sell out their game on Sunday against the Houston Texans and avoid a local television blackout.

More than 3,000 tickets remained for the game. The NFL gave the team until Friday afternoon to sell out and avoid having the game blacked out in local television markets.

The Bengals (4-1) have sold out their past 46 games at Paul Brown Stadium. The last game blacked out locally was against the Texans on Nov. 9, 2003.

Cincinnati also got a 24-hour extension before the season opener against Denver and managed to sell out in time to have the game shown locally.

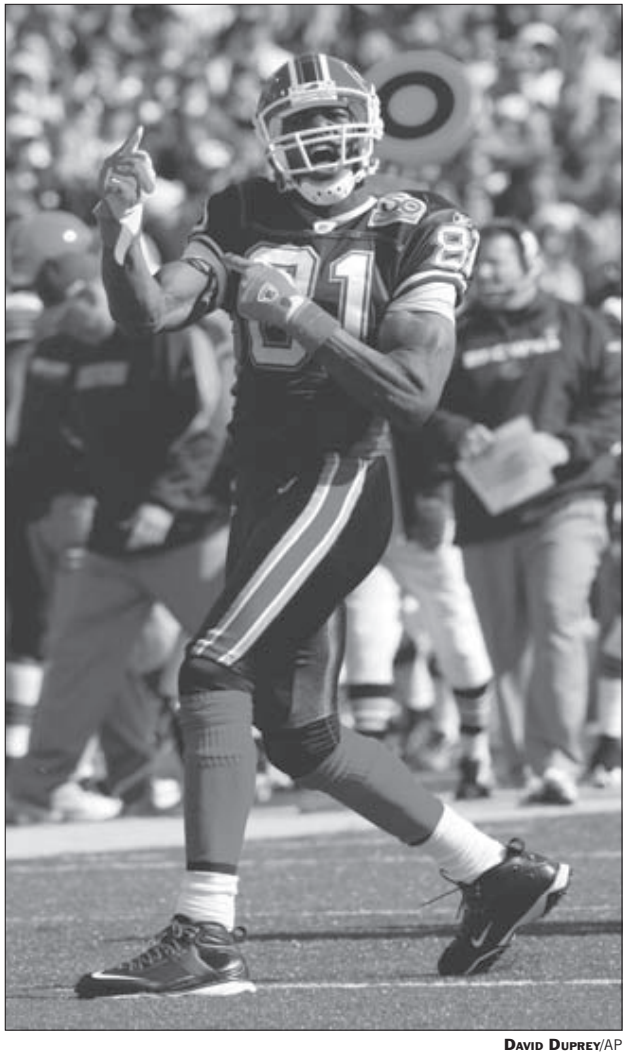
Raiders blacked out for second time this season

ALAMEDA, Calif. — The Oakland Raiders' home game against the Philadelphia Eagles on Sunday will be blacked out locally because the team did not sell out the game in time.

Barring waivers granted by the league, games must be sold out 72 hours before kickoff to avoid a blackout in a 75-mile radius. This is the second time in three home games that Oakland has been unable to avoid a blackout.

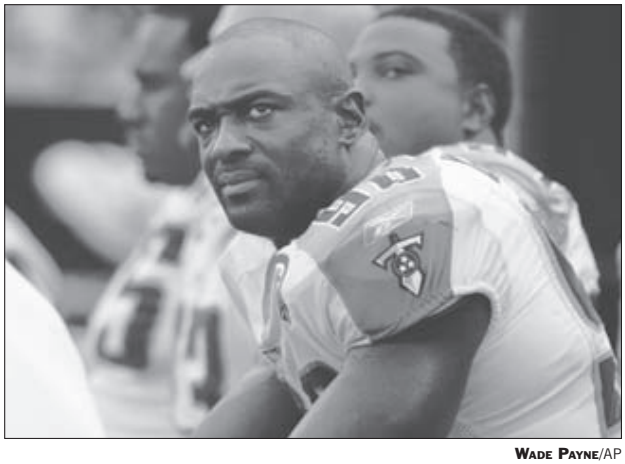
The Raiders have had two games blacked out each season since taking over ticket sales from Alameda County before the 2006 season.

In their first 11 seasons back from Los Angeles, the Raiders sold out only 25 of 88 regular-season games in time to avoid a blackout.



DAVID DUPREY/AP

Buffalo wide receiver Terrell Owens celebrates a first down catch against Cleveland last Sunday. Owens hasn't helped the Bills' offense but might fit in with strong-armed QB Jay Cutler in Chicago.



WADE PAYNE/AP

Tennessee Titans defensive end Jevon Kearse looks on from the sideline durring a game earlier this season. Coach Jeff Fisher decided 90 minutes before kickoff to sit Kearse last week, and Kearse didn't stick around to watch the game from the sideline.

SPORTS

TOUGH ACT TO FOLLOW
What can the IRL do for an encore?
Keeping its drivers would be a good start
Racing Stripes, Page 26

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Shipley for Heisman?

Receiver, kick returner does it all for Texas

By Jim Vertuno
The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas

Jordan Shipley took the kickoff, started up the middle of the field and broke right to find open space.

Behind the Texas receiver, 45,000 fans in burnt orange rose to their feet in unison and the roar from the crowd seemed to push him forward. Ahead of him, about 45,000 screaming Oklahoma fans gasped and went quiet by the time he reached the end zone.

The touchdown return jump-started a big Texas rally and the Longhorns rolled to a 45-35 victory over their border rivals last season. It also started Shipley on a play-making streak that is still running strong heading into Saturday's Longhorns-Sooners rematch at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas.

The sixth-year senior has been so good catching passes, returning kicks and coming up with game-changing plays at the most crucial time for No. 3 Texas (5-0, 2-0 Big 12), there has been half-serious chatter about Shipley sharing some of the Heisman Trophy hype directed at his best friend and roommate, quarterback Colt McCoy.

"He just looks like an ordinary guy," Oklahoma defensive coordinator Brent Venables said. "But he's got a little mini cape that he puts on when he gets out there on the field."

The No. 20 Sooners (3-2, 1-0) have seen just about enough of Shipley's Superman routine.

In 2006, he caught a second-half touchdown pass that broke open a close game. In 2007, he caught a touchdown pass in a 28-21 loss.

Last year's kickoff return swung momentum after the Sooners had taken a 14-3 lead. He also caught a touchdown pass later in the game as Texas got its first regular-season victory over a No. 1 team since 1963.

"Every time he touches the ball," McCoy said, "you feel like something special can happen."

Opponents haven't found a way to stop him this season.

His 47 catches put him on pace to smash the school's season record of 100 set by Kwame Cavil in 1999. He's also returned two punts for touchdowns. The first, against Texas Tech, ended with a highlight moment when he was brave enough to run up to Texas' 2,000-pound steer mascot, Bevo.

It was a risky move. If Bevo had been standing, Shipley could have easily been gored.

"I won't be going near Bevo again," Shipley said.

SEE SHIPLEY ON PAGE 28

Texas wide receiver Jordan Shipley has 47 catches this season, putting him on pace to smash the school record of 100. He also has returned two punts for TDs. Shipley's all-around skills and ability to swing the momentum in games have inspired half-serious Heisman Trophy hype. "He just looks like an ordinary guy," Oklahoma defensive coordinator Brent Venables said. "But he's got a little mini cape that he puts on when he gets out there on the field."

Eric Gay/AP

Red River Rivalry on AFN
No. 3 Texas (5-0) vs. No. 20 Oklahoma (3-2)
at the Cotton Bowl, Dallas
1 a.m. Sunday, AFN-Sports
Game time Japan & Korea Standard

Yankees' Teixeira, Angels' Abreu will see many familiar faces in opposing dugout
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U.S. men finish World Cup qualifying by winning group
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No. 5 Broncos avoid Tulsa's upset bid
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